

**Hampton Conservation Commission**  
Regular Meeting  
Wednesday March 15, 2023 6:30 PM  
Fletcher Library (no key at Town Hall)  
MINUTES

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:45 PM by Chair Mark Samios. All members notified of change of venue. Members present: Bruce Spaman, Marcia Kilpatrick, Penny Newbury, Karen Hamilton, Ev Hyde. Absent: Marc Cardwell. Audience member present: John Tillinghast, Selectman.

**Audience for citizens:** None

**Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings** (February 15 and Feb 27 Special Meeting)

Motion made and seconded Karen/Marcia to approve the minute with the 2/15 corrected spelling of McKleroy, and the addition in the Knotweed section of "Knotweed is a big problem and needs to be repeatedly cut." Approved.

**Additions to the Agenda**

none

**Old Business**

**Pollinator Pathways meeting**

The library will be holding the meeting Saturday April 29<sup>th</sup> at 10AM. There will be free seeds, and an opportunity for participants to order pollinator-friendly plants as part of a library fundraiser. There will be demonstration plants that the HCC agreed would be the responsibility of the Library to pay for. The HCC will sponsor the program by donating \$100 towards the speaker honorarium.

**Membership Term Limits**

Penny will develop a draft matrix of term limits to ensure that term ends are staggered. HCC will review and the present to the Selectmen for approval.

**Election of officers**

Motion made (Ev/Karen) to hold the yearly election every December for Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary. Approved unanimously.

**Old Road Committee:** Ev Hyde

Ev led a discussion on how to "adopt" discontinued or abandoned roads, and the need for legal opinions on certain roads to make sure the HCC can begin to protect them and establish trails. It was agreed to focus on one priority road at a time; it will be Jericho Road. Ev will talk to the PZC regarding this plan to get their advice on how to proceed and designate it as a trail. John T. will revisit this issue with the First Selectman again to remind him of this project, which was initiated several years ago.

**Little River Preserve**

- The DEEP grant will be announced 4/19. Fingers, toes, wings, paws and gills are crossed.
- Marcia reported that the CT Botanical Society is looking for projects to "botanize," ie, conduct inventories of all plant species. Marcia will ask them if they are interested in doing all or part of the LR Preserve.
- Mark will visit Keith Crawford to ask him about starting on the brush cutting while the ground is still (sort of) hard.

**New Business**

- The RFP to lease the hayfield has been written and will go out to bid. HCC will have the opportunity to review the proposals.
- Question about property sold on Parker Road
- Suggestion to discuss property on Windham Rd. for possible preservation at next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Penny Newbury  
Secretary