

Hampton Conservation Commission
Special Meeting
Wednesday January 4, 2023 7:00 PM
Town Hall
MINUTES

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chair Mark Samios.

Members present: Bruce Spaman, Marcia Kilpatrick, Penny Newbury, Karen Hamilton, Ev Hyde, Marc Cardwell.

Audience members present: John Tillinghast, Selectman, Kevin Grindle

Old Business

Hammond Hill Property and Proposed Recreational Trails Grant

Kevin Grindle, speaking as a public citizen and not as PZC Chair, voiced his interest in helping with the development of the application to DEEP to fund ADA-accessible trails to the Little River as well as a parking area in front of the property. The following topics were discussed:

- An overview of the property and what the HCC wanted to accomplish
- Desire to protect wildlife habitat and current agricultural use
- Creation of trails and observation posts
- Appropriate materials for trail and parking lot construction
- The size and scope of parking area
- Activities that can be considered for the in-kind match
- Wetlands and PZC notification and approval
- Cost estimates for work; approximate costs for certain activities and materials
- Various portions of the application, including attachments
- Since the Town is sponsoring/submitted the application, letters of support are needed from various groups as part of the application (PZC, wetlands, HCC, Recreation)
- Application is due March 1, 2023.

Action Steps

- Kevin will look at the site and create a drawing with proposed activities to be submitted to PZC prior to their meeting on 1/23/23.
- Kevin will also create a parking area/trail plan that's sufficient to submit to DEEP with the application.
- Marc will write a letter to the PZC by 1/10/23 requesting "municipal improvements" (parking lot)
- Penny will fill out some of the application (narrative) with input from Marc and others and submit it to Kevin and Mark by 1/10
- Bruce and Marc will ask Jay G. Wetlands agent to walk the property to determine whether a permit application needs to be filed. At the same time they will also have written a letter of support for him to sign.
- If a permit is needed, Marc and Bruce will ask Jay for a letter from IWWA stating that it looks favorably on the project and will have permits in place soon.
- Bruce will get a letter of recommendation from the Rec Department
- Penny will write a letter from HCC

Members will attend the 1/5/23 Selectmen's meeting to discuss the project and request a meeting to discuss cost estimates to determine the in-kind portion that the Town may be able to cover (including those activities that have already been completed 18 months prior (since July 1, 2021).

Annual Report

Members reviewed the final draft of HCC's portion and approved it for submission to be included in the Town's Annual Report

HCC Budget

Members reviewed the budget and made 2 changes:

Deletion of knotweed expense

Addition of \$200 for supplies for the Harvest Festival.

Motion was made and seconded (Ev Hyde/Penny Newbury) to approve the budget to be submitted to the Board of Finance with these changes. Discussion followed. Motion approved (4 yes, 1 abstention).

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Penny Newbury, Secretary