

Hampton Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting
Wednesday September 16, 2020, 6:30PM
Hampton Town Hall Gazebo
MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:06pm by Secretary Penny Newbury, as there was currently Chair. Members present: Marcia Kilpatrick, Ev Hyde (arrived late, and Stan Crawford was seated for him until he came), Mark Samios, Pat Cascio.
Audience members: Karen Hamilton, Bruce Spaman, and Allan Cahill (arriving later).

Audience for Citizens: none.

Motion made and seconded (Marcia, Pat) to approve minutes of August 19, 2020.
Approved unanimously.

Additions to the Agenda: none.

Old Business

Membership:

- An overview of what the HCC does was given to audience members, who introduced themselves and their interest in the Commission.
- Stan Crawford tendered his resignation from the Commission.
- Mark Samios was moved from alternate to regular member.
- Pat Cascio reported she would like to stay on the commission as a regular member.
- Allan Cahill was present to reappoint Ev Hyde to another term and agreed to recommend Karen Hamilton at the next Selectman's meeting to serve as Alternate. One vacant alternate slot remains.
- Penny will update the membership list with term expiration dates as well as contact information.

Memorial tree policy

Allan reported that no such policy exists; Bruce offered to send Allan some samples, as he has worked with other CT towns that have such policies.

Hammond Hill Property: Allan reported that the DPW has been mowing the open areas but much of the riverside area and field borders is heavily overgrown; DPW will be doing extensive clearing with machinery later in the fall, at which time the HCC is invited to do some hand clearing, to open up some sections and allow for walking along the riverbank. Allan reported some interesting foundation work farther in on the property, possibly the remnants of an old series of mills, near N. Bigelow Rd. To date the property does not have a name.

UConn Invasive Plant conference: It will be virtual, on October 7. Moved and seconded (Mark, Pat) to have the HCC spend \$65 to have Marcia register and attend.

Update on StoneHurst decision: Update was given to members regarding the 3 trail crossings and the reduction in path widths to 8 feet.

Update on Pollinator Field: Marcia reported that it did well this year, had lots of bees, and would like some help weeding the dogbane.

Hiking Brochure update: Penny will ask Bob what the status of this brochure is and try to get the copy from him so the group can finish it.

Mapping review and next steps: Tabled until next meeting.

New Business

Election of new Chair

Penny nominated Mark Samios to be the new Chair. Seconded by Ev. Mark accepted the nomination. Hearing no other nominations, nominations were closed. Discussion followed. Mark was then unanimously voted in as Chair.

The Chair then reviewed the meeting schedule and will ask Allan if there is a place inside Town Hall where the group can meet, as it will be dark and probably cold next month. However, according to AI, electricity will be available at the pavilion by then.

Next meeting: October 21, 6:30, at a location TBD.

Suggested topic for next month's agenda: Arbor Day (April 2021) activities and collaboration with Scouts.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10.

Respectfully Submitted,
Penny Newbury, Secretary