

Hampton Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting
Wednesday November 18, 2020, 6:30PM
Hampton Town Hall
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Secretary Penny Newbury at 7:05pm, as the Chair was unable to attend. Additional members present: Marcia Kilpatrick, Pat Cascio, Ev Hyde. Absent: Mark Samios, Karen Hamilton.

Seating of Alternates: Stan Crawford was seated for Mark Samios.

Audience for Citizens: None

Approval of Minutes of October 21, 2020. Moved and seconded (Marcia/Ev); approved.

Additions to the Agenda:

Knotweed project update

First Day Hikes

Old Business

Update on recruitment of new members: To date, no one who has expressed interest has been sworn in by the Town Clerk. Members reported that some community members are still interested; they will try to contact them and tell them to come to the next meeting (December 16) and/or get approval from the selectmen to be on the HCC and get sworn in by the Town Clerk. She can be contacted by phone and come out of the building to do this.

Hiking Brochure update: Penny passed out a draft of a potential new format (on-line) and asked members to add text, make suggestions, and take photos ASAP. The brochure/flyer will include links to maps, etc. and also include open space that may not have trail systems on it yet but this will inform citizens of all the open space in town (including Goodwin Forest).

Mapping review—tabled until such time as we can all huddle round a table. IT was agreed, however, to review the old list of priority properties at the next meeting and see if they are still the ones we are prioritizing, or if we can think of additional/new ones.

Knotweed removal project update:

Marcia reported that the Scouts don't think it would fit well with their timelines. Scouts did offer to volunteer a day of service, however. Pat had begun compiling a list of locations given to her by community members. It was agreed that everyone would give Marcia all their info and she would keep a master list. The project would start in April (more ID-ing) and treatment would start in July and August. Town roads only—not State roads. Marcia will also put a notice in the Gazette that we are doing a knotweed project.

Invasive Plant of the month review: the group agreed we can send the phragmites poster to Donna and Shannon and others will send it to other places like the library, to print and post.

New Business

Communications: The group did not know if the Chair knows that there is a HCC mailbox in Town Hall. Penny will tell him that he should get this mail at least monthly. He can call ahead and have Shannon meet him outside with it.

Report on Edwards Property Cleanup: Stan and penny reported on the cleanup with the boy and girl scouts, expressing dismay that no one else from the HCC was there. Discussion re: the importance of networking with these groups, especially if we want their help in the future.

First Day Hike: Penny asked if anyone knew about these, sponsored by DEEP on January 1. No one did, and there did not seem to be much interest in the HCC pursuing it.

Arbor Day (April 2021) activities and collaboration with Scouts. Marcia reported that this was an idea of Bruce, a citizen who is not yet a member. The group hoped he will attend another meeting and possibly report on this potential project.

Next meeting: December 16, 6:30pm. Discussion followed re: whether the Town had a commercial Zoom or other online meeting account and who operated it; if we did have such an account and someone could facilitate this they we would have the meeting on Zoom. Adjournment. Any member is free to ask the Selectmen if we have such an account and if so, how the HCC accesses it. If no one takes this task on, the meeting will be held in the town hall upstairs meeting room again.

Respectfully Submitted,
Penny Newbury
Secretary