

Hampton Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2021

The meeting was held via Zoon, courtesy of Kathy Donahue, who taped the meeting.

The meeting called to order at 7:35 by Chair Mark Samios. Present: Marcia Kilpatrick, Pat Cascio, Penny Newbury, Ev Hyde, Karen Hamilton, Stan Crawford (alternate).

Audience members present: Bruce Spaman, Kim Romagna

Audience for citizens: none.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting (December 16, 2020): Ev Hyde/Marcia Kilpatrick. Discussion: none. Approved

Additions to the Agenda: Budget submission

Old Business

Open Space Hiking Brochure, Jericho Road Property Update, Trail Mapping and Marking, Abandoned Road Project – Penny Newbury

Penny reviewed the progress made on the open space brochure and the contributions from members to date. Discussion followed. Motion (Marcia Kilpatrick/Pat Cascio) to have Penny meet with Donna (Selectmen's assistant) asap. Approved. She will try to make an appointment with Dinna for March 4 (Thursday). No new activity on the other projects due to weather, time, etc.

CT Land Conservation Council – Marcia Kilpatrick

HCC thanked Marcia for sending everyone copies of the CCC emails she receives—very informative..

Knotweed Project – Marcia Kilpatrick

Marcia wants to call the project "Nip the Knotweed." A small article was in the *Gazette* last month but Marcia will put a larger one in this month, with more information. Discussion regarding how to publicize and get more people involved. Marcia will ask that something be put on the website, and Pat Cascio will put in Hampton Neighborhood Watch and call Parish Hill to see if any ecology club members want to participate. There was a suggestion to put info in on NextDoor and Craigslist. Marcia will also contact the Mennonites.

May, early June, July and end of August will be the times of remediation. Marcia will create a document that gives specifics about **what exactly** people will be volunteering for (activity, day, time, location, tools needed, hours to spend, what's in it for them, etc.).

Bird Habitat Grant – Marcia Kilpatrick

Joshua's Trust did not put the grant in but will do the project anyway. HCC will help if necessary (putting in duck boxes and bluebird boxes at Preston preserve). The majority of labor will be done by JT, however.

Wild Ones Seminar – Marcia Kilpatrick

WildOnes is a Group working with native plants. Marcia attended a conference in which the speaker from Vermont explained how native cultivars affect pollinators. Marcia got a lot of material for anyone who wants it. Pollinators prefer natives to cultivars, which have little to no pollen or nectar. The advice

she brought back was to work on nurseries to have them stock more native plants.
Wild.native.plants@gmail.com for more info. Next meeting: this Saturday on how trees make a healthy forest.

Arbor Day – Bruce Spaman

Bruce reported that he is starting to get some interest in the event (Friday April 30). He spoke with elementary school and they are interested. Will probably plant 1 or 2 larger trees at the school. The Rec Commission also wants to help out. (HCC suggested native trees.) Eversource is a corporate partner, and may once again donate seedlings to students to take home.

Bruce will keep us informed as the date approaches. He will also reach out to local reps and media.

Meeting Dates – Mark Samios

Group reviewed the proposed dates, which are currently posted online. Motion made (Ev Hyde/Karen Hamilton) to accept dates. Approved.

Hampton Conservation Commission Schedule of meeting dates for 2021

All meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 P.M.

Jan. 20, 2021

Feb. 17, 2021

Mar. 17, 2021

Apr. 21, 2021

May. 19, 2021

Jun. 16, 2021

Jul. 21, 2021

Aug. 18, 2021

Sep. 15, 2021

Oct. 20, 2021

Nov. 17, 2021

Dec. 15, 2021

New Business:

Budget for next year—Mark will submit a request for 2022. Group discussed the amount the HCC needs and will break it down into line items. Asked members to get him suggestions by Feb. 20.

Open space fund has \$92,740 in it now.

Acquisition has \$10,005 in it right now. (Thank you Kathy Donahue for the info!)

Communications: None

Setup of zoom meetings: Kathy will continue to host and let us know when she can't.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:46pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Penny Newbury

Secretary