

Hampton Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting
Wednesday August 20, 2025
Town Hall Meeting Room

Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Chair Mark Samios. Members present: Kevin Grindle, Bruce Spaman, Marcia Kilpatrick, Penny Newbury, Marc Cardwell
Absent: Ev Hyde.

Also present: Al Cahill, 1st Selectman

Seating of Alternates:none

Audience for Citizens:none

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting, July 16, 2025 Motion made (Marcia/Marc). Approved.

Additions to Agenda: Bruce Spaman (Roads)

Old Business

LRPO Update – Kevin: Test borings will be completed this week. They will go down 8-10' and if they can do both in a day they will. Results back in @ 2 weeks (soils data and design data for soil loads). Then once that report is done, the structural engineers do a report re: boardwalk design loads (people, emergency ATVs, etc.) Target date for all complete design documents is September 19. Timber structure with composite deck. Railings are pressure treated with powder coated mesh panel below the handrails.

- Expected bidding process/timeline:
- documents complete by next HCC meeting 9/17; then HCC authorizes project to go to Selectmen
- Selectmen meet in October 6, RFP goes out on Oct. 9
- 4 weeks to submit bids (bids received @ Nov 6; bids reviewed with Selectmen the week of Nov. 10.)
- Then contract is awarded November 12, and contractor receives notice to proceed (after their documents are submitted) @ November 19. DEEP is simultaneously notified.

Timeline: 60-90 days, with the paving being done in the spring (after April 1).

Kevin reported another round of grants later this fall (Sept/October) –this will be another rec trails grant, and more \$ over the next 2 years following. HCC will need to think next meeting about whether we want to develop another project.

Map will be ready by next meeting.

Land Clearing Vine Clearing, Field Cutting– Marc: Keith C. donated some of the clearing he did in addition to what was bid on at the preserve. All the perimeter is cleared now. Discussion re: clearing an additional area that contains invasives. Mark mentioned the milkweed patch; discussion re: maintaining this patch. Field cutting: Al said he wants all the fields done (1st cut) by Memorial Day.

Bird Boxes – Marcia: Scouts will report next spring if they want to do it.

Bird Blind: many cut roots around it etc. that are tripping hazards. Need to be trimmed.

Tree: weeping willow on side of preserve that has vines growing up it. Hopefully a member will cut them.

New Business

25-26 Budget and financials – Mark. Discussed last year's and this year's budget. We have about \$10,000 to spend (to pay for mowing, arbor day, etc.)

Additions to the agenda: Discussion of roads-to-trails project. Kevin will research all the abutters and decide if the town owns the road; will advise us at next meeting.

Communications

Fish Report – Marc: electro survey of Little River was completed. There are reproducing brook trout in the river, but also pickerel. Need to develop an infographic for the public to use.

Nick Bellantoni also visited to view the dam and see if there were any historical artifacts. He wasn't terribly impressed, and couldn't confirm if the dams were old, although he did identify the dam towards the south as older, and was going to do some research.

Audience for Citizens : none

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:46pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Penny Newbury, Secretary