

Hampton Conservation Commission
June 28, 2011

Meeting called to order by Chairman Wayne Kilpatrick at 7:26 p.m. Also present: Randy Thompson, Marsha Kilpatrick, Everett Hyde, Bob Johnson, and Phoebe Huang.

Minutes of May 24, 2011 accepted by a vote of five to one. Phoebe Huang abstained for she was absent from the May 24 meeting.

Additions to agenda: individuals interested in joining commission

Audience for citizens: none

Old Business:

Walks in Hampton Brochure: Bob will add Trailwoods and Goodwin to the brochure.

Gazette articles Randy will write an article discussing the Hampton Open Space account, the purpose of Open Space, its value to the community; and what has been achieved so far.

DEP Forestry meeting: Wayne he met with Susan Frechette, Deputy DEP Commissioner Christopher Martin, DEP State Forester, and William Hyatt, Chief Bureau of Natural Resources to discuss management of state forest land. He learned that two positions have been added -- each for a two-year term. One person will be assigned to Goodwin Forest. He was given a map, which Wayne copied for Conservation Commission members, detailing the state forest lands - - areas under active management, under no management, where management has expired etc. The DEP plan is to double the areas of management by 2022.

Marcia brought up the COVERTS forestry management program, which she and Wayne attended and found worthwhile. The importance in educating the public to the value of managing forest land is that 90% of Connecticut forests are in private hands. The contact person for this program is Tom Worthley. Attendees are obligated to perform community service in return for the benefit of the education.

Invasive plant of the month -- -- Japanese knot weed. This weed spreads aggressively via underground roots and needs to be pulled out completely on sight.

Vadnias Property: The state has had no funds to purchase land for six years and is unlikely to have the means to purchase this property this year. One option is for the Commission to consider outright purchase of the land. Before taking any steps in this direction, however, we will determine where Joanne Freeman is in her talks.

Loiselle Property: No progress.

New Business

Addition of new member: Linda Gorman has expressed interest in filling the vacant position on the Commission.

Elect Co-chair: Marcia made a motion to elect Penny Newberry, Assistant Chair. Everett seconded the motion, and it was carried by unanimous consent.

Open space account budget reduction Marcia proposed a statement to be read at the June 30. Town meeting expressing the Commission's objection to removal of \$20,000 of the open space allocation. The motion was made, seconded; and by unanimous consent was agreed that Randy would read the statement.

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Submitted by Phoebe Huang, acting recording secretary