

1 **HOOKSETT CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

2 **Monday, May 9, 2022**

3 **4:30pm**

4 **Hooksett Municipal Building**

5 **35 Main Street**

6 **Town Council Chambers**

7
8 **I. Open Meeting 4:35 pm**

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10 **II. Attendance/Introductions:** Cindy Robertson-Chair, JoCarol Woodburn, Deb Miville, Phil
11 Fitanides, Bob Better-Alternate, John Pieroni- Alternate, Alex Walczyk – Town Council
12 Rep, Sheena Gilbert- Planning Board Rep.

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14 **III. Staff:** Kathy Lawrence-Minutes, Rob Curran, Community Development

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16 **IV. Not in Attendance:** William Herlicka- Alternate

17 **V. Excused:** N/A

18
19 **VI. Pledge of Allegiance 4:35**

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21 **VII. Public Input: None**

22
23 **VIII. Consent Agenda**

- 24 1. NHDES Disqualified Seasonal Dock Notification for Lakes and Ponds
25 2. Finance Memorandum 4/4/2022
26 3. 2022 Lakes Congress

27 ***Motion to approve made by JoCarol Woodburn 2nd by Deb Miville, All in favor***
28 ***Sheena Gilbert & Phil Fitanides Abstained – not in attendance***

29
30 **IX. Meeting Minutes Approvals**

31 04/11/2022

32 ***Motion to approve made by JoCarol Woodburn 2nd by Cindy Robertson All in Favor***
33 ***Sheena Gilbert & Phil Fitanides Abstained – not in attendance***

34
35 **X. Invoices:**

- 36 1. Phase III Trail Map Updates & Phase IV Stantec Cost Estimates- \$862.50

37 ***Motion to approve \$862.50 dated 5/6/22 paid to Stantec, made by Deb Miville, 2nd by***
38 ***Sheena Gilbert, All in Favor***

39
40 **XI. Appointments**

41 i. None

42
43 **XII. Other Business**

44
 45 **Cindy updated the commission on the CIP Application Submission and the ARPA Grant**
 46 **Application Submission both meetings she presented at. JoCarol Woodburn is working on.**
 47 **the RPT Grant. Cindy will be providing the annual update to Town Council and is asking for**
 48 **their Signatures of a Letter of Support for the RPT Grant**

49 **JoCarol** I would like to get signatures for the Support Letters from both chairs of Planning
 50 Board and Parks and Rec

51 **Sheena** I will bring a letter to Planning Board next Monday night

52 **Deb** suggested to send it to Andy Jasosz, chair of Parks & Rec

53

54 1. "Friends of the Trails" Program Discussion

55 **Follow-up –**

56 **Cindy** We had a good turn out for the first trail clean-up day with our volunteer group. About 10
 57 people total, some HCC members and a few people from Friends of the Trail. Paul did a great
 58 job showing everyone what invasive plants needed to be pulled and a lot of trash was picked up
 59 along the water and trail. Thank you Dale of Parks & Rec for bringing the trailer and waiting all
 60 day to haul our bags of cuttings and trash.

61 **JoCarol** I would like to do another trail day in the fall

62 **Cindy** Monitor Training information in Deerfield was sent to all the volunteers. Still working on
 63 the training in for that in Hooksett.

64 **JoCarol** It would be good to have someone to manage the volunteer group

65 **John** Paul said we really need to get a handle on the Bittersweet at the Riverwalk trail.

66 **Cindy** the upside is it does not block the trail, but yes there is a lot there.

67 **Sheena** I would love to get out there and cut some of the Bittersweet off the trees and
 68 hopefully save those trees from dying

69 **Cindy** do you think we should continue to develop our volunteer group before getting an
 70 organizer. Bob has agreed to step up a full member and if an alternate come in maybe they can
 71 organize our volunteers

72 **Sheena** in terms of looking for someone, if we do a summer event, I will take charge of that but
 73 going forward I prefer to have someone else take charge

74 **JoCarol** I think it will be fall before we have another event. Not sure what day

75 **Deb** if we decided on our own to cut the bittersweet, do we need permission from the town?

76 **Cindy** no because you know what you're doing, and you had the training with Paul

77

78 2. Heads Pond Conservation Area Documentation

79 **A Heads Pond Trail Use summary was provided for the week of April 7 – 20th**

80 3. Stewardship Plan: Carriage Manor, University Heights, Town Pond
 81 and School District.

82

83 **Cindy** we are going to revisit the Stewardship that updates the plan. It looks like we need to
 84 finalize the recommendations and plans. They recommend the next step we take is to do the
 85 survey and set the monuments. They will come back with that and conduct a trail use study.

86 **Cindy provided information of the details of what the trail use study entails** I am going to
 87 reach out and see what the cost of the study would be so we know what we can work on for
 88 the trail upgrades. We have to be careful and keep an eye on our funds.

89 **John** we don't have a program for the use? Do we care how it is being used now are we more
 90 focused on how we want it used in the future. Why spend money to see how people are using it
 91 now?

92 **Cindy** I think it is a good idea to know how it is being used now and it is important to see what
 93 is being done on the trails now and guide us for the use we may want

94 **Bob** I was on the back side of the pond and people have been camping and drinking out there.
 95 Leaving the trash and lots of cans

96 **Cindy** and a whole lot of ATV use too. That is what happens when there are no restrictions and
 97 no signs prohibiting that kind of use. We would like to see some trails open for trial bikes. I
 98 would like a good understanding of what can be done and how they are being used now

99 **Sheena** I agree, I would like to see not just how they are being used for now but what they can
 100 be used for in the future.

101 **Cindy** we may want to reroute or rebuild some of the area too.

102 **JoCarol** are we going to try contracting with SCA again this year?

103 **Cindy** yes Bearpaw was working on that. A tiny piece of the trail is on school property, and it is
 104 one of the nicer parts of that trail. What is interesting right now is that trail does exist on their
 105 property and people are using it. Their concern was that they don't want trials because of
 106 liability. If we find some trails are being used on their property and find out that that trail is
 107 highly used and people want to continue using it, I can take that to them with at trail study.

108 **Cindy Any more thoughts about the recommendations or study?**

109 **Deb** it says there is a 10 year action plan, I think some of this should be done now and not year
 110 7, specifically the Enforce trail use policy and revise as needed.

111 **Cindy** yes, the study will bring information to us for policy and enforcement on some of the
 112 trails. We are behind a bit and this rough draft, it is something we can move around and
 113 prioritize with what we want to do

114 **Continued Discussion (cost of the study)**

115 4. Riverwalk Trail Work needed for Loop

116 5. Hooksett Old Home Day September 17th

117 **Continued discussion (event availability)**

118 **Cindy** do we want to have a booth on OHD. We have until Aug 31st to let them know.

119 **JoCarol** is Heritage Commission having a booth and can we share a booth? We will need to set
 120 up volunteers for booth coverage.

121 **Cindy** it may be a good time to recruit more volunteers for Friends of Trail. Sheena and Cindy
 122 both commented they will be there

123

124

125

126 **XIII. Additional business brought up by the Conservation Commission:**

127 **Cindy** Swift Corban emailed me that Clay Pond and Manchester Water Works are having a
 128 meeting about the forestry work and Steve requested that Bear Paw pick up that fee

129 **JoCarol** Rue is planning to finish the signs and do more blazing Pinnacle.

130 **John** I will do blazing too. Will Rue let you know when she will be out there? Also I noticed
131 there is a sign that is misleading about using the steep embankment and a sign at the bottom of
132 the embankment that may need to be fixed

133 **JoCarol** that is not our sign,

134 **John** we don't want anyone going up the steep embankment for possible erosion. Correct?

135 **JoCarol** yes

136 **Bob** DPW has a lot of paint that can be used by anyone if that helps with the trail blazing.

137 **David Hughes** I am an anthropologist from Rutgers University studying the Coal Power Plant in
138 Bow. I just came here to listen to the meeting tonight and meet the board

139 **Alex** I want to follow up about a property we discussed a few meetings back. There was a
140 request if HCC wanted to receive a donation of a parcel next to Peters Brook Park. Long story
141 short it is not useful parcel. It is wet and lots of trees. Bruce looked at it to and agreed it doesn't
142 make sense to accept the property with all the wetlands.

143 **John** was that the parcel with the monitoring well

144 **Alex** yes but it's more about the terrain issues and wetlands, Bruce said it would be big
145 undertaking with the water on the property

146 **Sheena** is there anything unique that lives there?

147 **Alex** not that I am aware of. The water and trees that would need to be pulled down is a lot of
148 work

149 **Phil** I just want to let everyone know that helicopter rides at OHD 10 -6pm are all set up.

150 ***JoCarol Woodburn made a motion to adjourn @ 5:15 Cindy Robertson 2nd all in favor***

151

152 Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Kathy Lawrence

153 **Non-Public Session** NH RSA 91-A:3, II (d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of a
154 real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties
155 who interests are adverse to those of the general community.