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North Hampton Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes – April 12, 2022

Administrative: The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m and via Channel 22 from the Town Hall. The agenda was posted in Compliance with RSA 91-A requirements.

Roll Call: Members present: Lisa Wilson, (Chair), Kathy Grant, (Vice Chair), Frank Arcidiacono, Dave Ciccalone, Lauri Etela, Audrey Prior and Phil Thayer. **Members of the public**: Dave McGilvary. **A motion was made by Lisa Wilson to permit Andrew Vorkink to join the meet via phone.** A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

Approval of March 8, 2022 Draft Minutes: After review of the March 8, 2022 minutes, *a motion was made by Kathy Grant, duly seconded by Audrey Prior, to accept the minutes as written.* A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried.

New Business:

Review Draft Letter of Recommendation for Town's Application for NHDES

CoastalProgram/Watershed Assistance Grant for Improvements to Old Locke Road. Lisa Wilson discussed the Old Locke Road project with Jenn Rowden, Mike Tully, Craig Musselman, CMS Engineers, and Kevin Lucey, DES, to address concerns raised during the March 8 meeting. Lisa conveyed to the commissioners that the new box culvert, as proposed, which is the same size as the existing culvert will not increase the flow of water or contribute to flooding the surrounding neighborhood and abutting properties. The work will not disturb the marsh, and the roadway will remain level with residents' driveways with the possible exception of one driveway where the road might be slightly elevated.

After reviewing the draft letter from the Conservation Commission in support of the Town's application for grant funds to improve Old Locke Road, a motion was made by Lauri Etela, duly seconded by Andrew Vorkink, to send a letter in support of the application to the NHDES Coastal Watershed Assistance Program. Lisa Wilson called a roll call vote and the motion carried.

Nominations for Appointments by the Select Board to the Conservation Commission: Frank Arcidiacono notified the Commission that he will not be seeking a second term on the Commission. The commissioners expressed their appreciation for all of the work Frank has accomplished and for leading efforts to restore Philbrick Pond Salt Marsh. A motion was made by Audrey Prior, duly seconded by Andrew Vorkink, to nominate the following Commissioners:

Kathy Grant, Regular Member for a three-year term to expire in 2025 Philip Thayer, Regular Member for a three-year term to expire in 2025 Dave Ciccalone, Regular Member for a three-year term to expire in 2025 Lisa Wilson called a roll call vote and the motion carried.

David McGilvary expressed his interest in seeking appointment to Commission. After introducing himself to the Commission, he expressed his support for the work of the Commission, his commitment to the Town, and the preservation of its natural resources. *A motion was made by Kathy Grant, duly seconded by Phil Thayer, to nominate Dave McGilvary as an Alternate Member for a three-year term to expire in 2025.* Lisa Wilson called a roll call vote and the motion carried. All nominations will be sent to the Select Board for consideration for approval.

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Old Business:

Conservation Easement Subcommittee Update: Lisa Wilson received a call from Cassandra Pearl, new monitoring agent for Forest Hills Farm and the Little River conservation land. Cassandra will plan to visit the properties on Friday, April 15, 2022. Kathy Grant will join Cassandra on the walk.

Trail Maintenance Update: Phil Thayer reported that Eagle Scout project has been approved to build a 40-foot wide bridge on the Dustin-Booker Trail. This project will be completed by Eagle Scout Holden by the end of May. Phil will plan to remove the trees leaning across a segment of the OBT before the installation of the kiosk. Phil will aslo plan to install more trail blazers on the Robie conservation land.

Philbrick Pond Saltmarsh Drainage Update: Frank Arcidiacono reported that John Hubbard installed the Moose Plate sign at Philbrick Pond. Frank shared with the Commissioner the Philbrick Pond Hydrology Memorandum from David Burdick, Coastal Habitat Restoration Team, UNH, following the replacement of the cobble weir. The report noted a significant increase in Philbrick Pond Salt Marsh tidal ranges and that areas immediately upstream and downstream of the trolley berm are contributing to restricting the flow. Kathy has offered to be the Commission's liaison to work with the Philbrick Pond Salt Marsh restoration project partners for the next project phases. A motion was made to authorize the Chair to draft a thank you letter to the Nature Conservancy and Philbrick Pond partners. Lisa Wilson called a roll call vote and the motion carried.

Lisa Wilson reported that NHDES will be monitoring the effects of 2009 Phase II Little River Saltmarsh Restoration.

Other Business: Septic System Inventory: The Chair typed up the SSI notes from the last meeting for Septic System Inventory and will bring to May's conservation meeting. Rob Pruyne will continue to work with the commission to revise and update the database.

Logging: Concerns were raised about the logging of Gun Club acreage and whether the removal of trees will disturb any lead pollution. Phil Thayer indicated that the location of the logging should not lead to any concerns regarding potential lead pollution.

Correspondence: April 8, 2022: NH DES: Emergency Authorization Verification for 23 and 25 Ocean Boulevard (Tax Map 1, Lot 2) to regrade beach rocks above the highest observable tide line away from structures. NH DES requires a follow up report by May 10, 2022.

There being no further business to discuss, *a motion was made by Phil Thayer, duly seconded by Lauri Etela*, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Beverly Moore Recording Secretary

"These minutes were prepared within five (5) business days as required by NH RSA 91-A:2, II. They will not be finalized until approved by the majority vote by the Commission".