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North Hampton Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes – August 9, 2022

Administrative

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. via Zoom and 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), Dave Ciccalone, Lauri Etela, Audrey Prior, and Phil Thayer.

Approval of July 12, 2022 Draft Minutes: After review of the July 12, 2022 minutes, *a motion was made by Lauri Etela, duly seconded by Phil Thayer, to accept the minutes as written.* The motion carried.

New Business:

Trails Notification Statutory Permit-by-Notification (SPN): The Commission reviewed the application for the Dustin-Booker Trail Eagle Scout Project. Upon review of the draft application and proposed revisions, *a motion was made by Kathy Grant, duly seconded by Audrey Prior, to authorize the Chair to submit the application along with a \$25.00 application fee.* The motion carried.

NH DOT Standard Dredge & Fill Application: The Commission reviewed the Hampton Portsmouth Rail Trail application. The application notes that “the project consists of approximately 7.9 miles of the Hampton Branch Rail Corridor, a portion of the 9.6 mile corridor recently purchased by NHDOT from Pan Am Railways. The project begins at approximately the Hampton/North Hampton town line and continues north-northeast to the northern terminus at Barberry Lane in Portsmouth. The purpose of the project is to improve the condition of the trail to accommodate bicycles and pedestrians. This segment of the rail corridor was purchased by NHDOT for the purpose of creating a recreational trail. The intent is for the trail to become part of the NH Seacoast Greenway, a proposed 17-mile trail connecting NH’s eight coastal communities.” Each town will be responsible for maintaining its section of the trail for which North Hampton will be responsible for maintaining approximately 3.2 miles. The Commission discussed the NH DOT’s plans to ensure the protection of wetlands along the trail. The project is located along areas with extensive wetland systems, included forested wetlands and marsh complexes.

Old Business:

Conservation Easement Subcommittee Update: Lisa Wilson shared the findings from the SELT and RCCD monitoring reports for Forest Hills Farm, Little River, Dupont, and Dalton Town Forest conservation parcels. The SELT appreciated the chance to walk Forest Hills Farm and the Little

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River Conservation land with Kathy Grant and noted her knowledge about the trails and the history of the property.

Trail Maintenance Update: Phil Thayer reported he will clear portions of the Dustin Booker trail in advance of Matt Holden's Eagle Scout project to construct a 12 feet long bridge over Barton Brook. The Commission discussed the need to mow the Community Garden field. ***A motion was made by Audrey Prior, duly seconded by Lauri Etela, to authorize up to \$500.00 for payment to Mark Lariviere to mow the field.*** The motion carried.

Philbrick Pond Saltmarsh Drainage Update: Nothing to report.

Septic System Inventory Review: Nothing to report.

Other Business: Lisa Wilson met with Kate Dardinski, professional cartographer, via zoom on August 8, 2022 to discuss next steps. The Commission will need to draft descriptions along with special characteristics of the conservation parcels for the trail brochure and town website. Once the trails are completed, Kate offered to walk the trails and install the new signage in various locations along the trails.

Hunting Season begins on September 15th. Phil Thayer and Kathy Grant will determine where additional signage needs to be posted on the conservation parcels.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Moore

"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".