

**Hampton Conservation Commission**  
Regular Meeting Wednesday August 16, 2023 6:30 PM Town Hall Meeting Room  
MINUTES

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chair Mark Samios. Members present: Bruce Spaman, Marcia Kilpatrick, Penny Newbury, Ev Hyde, Stan Crawford, Kevin Grindle, Marc Cardwell. Absent: Karen Hamilton. Audience members present: John Tillinghast, Selectman, Kathy Thompson.

**Audience for citizens:** Kathy offered her large stone for use as a bench at the Little River preserve and asked that we advise her when we were ready to place it.

**Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting** (June 21, 2023)

**Motion made and seconded (Ev/Stan) to approve the minutes. Approved.**

**Additions to the Agenda**

Invasives, \$500 grant, chiggers

**Old Business**

**Little River Updates**

- Kevin led a work project to create a management plan for the property. It was decided to first do an analysis of the property listing its main assets and challenges. Then next meeting would be a review of this information and discussion of what was needed to address each opportunity listed, including a list of goals, and put them all into a plan.
- Stan will obtain a list of property abutters.
- Kevin will ask the Town planner to make an application to the NDDB to determine what type of protected species are on the property.
- There was a discussion of what the HCC determined would be, for the property, the definition of “passive recreation”
- John agreed to ask the Selectmen to consider directing the yearly field rental (\$4,500) towards maintenance of the property.
- Marc will speak to the Antiquarian Society and get information on the former mill on the river for the next meeting.
- Also needed is a discussion on how to market the property to the most people. It was decided to ask people at the Fall festival to complete a small survey asking them what they wished to see at the preserve, within parameters established by the HCC.
- Penny and Mark reported that The Town will be submitting a STEAP application requesting funds to cover the cost of the ADA boardwalk and parking lot.
- Penny urged everyone who had not done so to turn in their volunteer hours at the Preserve.

**Knotweed:**

Marcia gave an update of projects around town and what areas were done, with accompanying photos.

**Pollinator Pathways**

Marcia again urged everyone to sign up on the CT website. She will speak to the Selectmen again, who have agreed to have a Hampton town page on the CT Pollinator Pathway website, but to date nothing has been done. The UConn Plant Conference (11/3) main theme this year is pollinators.

**Signs**

Stan showed the sign to appear on a kiosk for the Preserve that he is constructing.

**New Business**

Fall festival: IT's on September 23, with setup at 7:45AM. Mark, Bruce and Marc will be there and urged everyone else to attend. The cost for the booth is \$15. They will do a presentation, and conduct the survey, as well as advertise the Walktober walk at the preserve conducted by the Antiquarian Society. The HCC needs to follow up with the people who gave their emails last year.

Invasives: Marcia gave information on the cork tree, the spotted lanternfly, and the always-popular chiggers. Discussion followed that included beech tree blight (spotted nematodes) and Asian jumping worms.

Grant for \$500: Constellation.com s giving \$500 grants to “help the community;” they are a utility company. Deadline is 9/15.

<https://www.constellationenergy.com/our-esg-principles/community/community-champions.html>

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Penny Newbury, Secretary