

HILLSBOROUGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION

February 27, 2024

Approved Minutes

Hillsborough Town Hall, 27 School St.

Chair Head called the Hillsborough Conservation Commission (HCC) meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Members present: Richard Head, Chair; James McDonough, Vice Chair; Terry Yeaton, Jim Riddle, Roger Shamel.

Also attending: John P. Segedy, Recording Secretary & Alternate; Linda White; Adam & Katherine Charette, Dark Sky Committee.

VISITOR BUSINESS

Adam & Katherine Charrette spoke to the HCC about the possibility of becoming a Dark Sky Community. They also spoke of the NH Astronomical Society with their Observatory in town and their possible need to look for a new site for observing. The Charrettes were inquiring if it might be possible to use a Town Conservation property. Various properties were discussed noting that many properties have easements (with specific rules) but are still owned by others, and there are a number of properties owned by various independent Conservation Organizations. A SPNHF (Society for Protection of NH Forests) property was discussed. The possibility of conserving the property where the current observatory is was also suggested. A potential Firefly Sanctuary was also noted as being considered. The Charrettes and the Dark Sky Committee will consider the HCC's input. The Charrettes left the meeting at 7:30 pm.

MINUTES

a. February 13, 2024

Jim Riddle suggested two changes.

Jim Riddle moved: *To approve the minutes of February 13, 2024.*

Roger Shamel seconded. Motion passed 4-0-1 (Richard Head abstained).

CORRESPONDENCE

a. Town of Hillsborough – Monthly expense report – Updated 2023 final report.

b. FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) – Notice of report with proposed revised map and study. Chair Head will review and report back to the HCC.

c. Fox Forest – Newsletter

d. Life Forest – Notification of having obtained an Intern and requesting suggested ideas for tasks. Ideas proposed included marking boundaries and trails, trail maintenance and expansion. Chair Head will share these with them.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Confluence Trail - West Main St. (M 11K, L 330-1). Richard Head shared the application. James McDonough will review and proofread it.

b. Conservation Opportunities –

Roger Shamel moved: *To enter Non-Public Session Per RSA 91-A:3,II(d) (Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property ...), with Linda White attending.*

Terry Yeaton seconded. Roll Call Vote: Richard Head, Yes; James McDonough, Yes; Terry Yeaton, Yes; Jim Riddle, Yes; Roger Shamel, Yes. The HCC entered Non-Public session at 7:46.

The HCC exited Non-Public Session at 8:25.

Roger Shamel moved: *To seal the minutes of the Non-Public Session.*

James McDonough seconded. Motion Passed 5-0.

- c. **Loon** – Consensus was to not award it this year.
- d. **Wetland Report** – Tabled.

NEW OR OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Roger Shamel spoke of ATV use on his property digging ruts.

ADJOURNMENT

Roger Shamel moved: *To adjourn.*

Jim Riddle seconded. Motion Passed 5-0 at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

John P. Segedy
Recording Secretary
Approved March 26, 2024