

**Conservation Commission
Town of Hampton Falls**

**January 14, 2010
6:30 p.m., Town Hall**

Meeting Minutes (Draft)

Present were Karen Ayers, Conservation Commission Chair; Bruce Fabbri, David Gandt, Julie Williams, J.P. Pontbriand, Robert Weiner, Bobbie Burns members; Mike Farinola, Selectmen Representative, Zach Szymczycka, member of the public.

Meeting was called to order at 6:30.

Zach Szymczycka, a Hampton Falls resident at WHS, came to discuss a senior seminar project. He is interested in constructing the kiosk sign for Marsh Lane. K. Ayers will forward the schematics to both D. Gandt and Z. Szymczycka.

K. Ayers reported that the closing for The Raspberry Farm was on December 30, 2009. There was discussion regarding the painting by Doris Rice. The committee decided to keep the painting on display to celebrate the success of the project. The Conservation Commission will continue to entertain offers with any proceed to go toward the development and maintenance of The Raspberry Farm. K. Ayers will ask the selectmen at a public hearing to be held on Wednesday, Jan 20, 2010 to accept the \$10,000 donation for the painting Stephen Hodecker gave the conservation commission through the Trust for Public Land and The Raspberry Farm capital campaign. The \$10,000 will then be directed to TPL to cover project costs.

M. Farinola reported that the Marsh Lane easement and parking area can be plowed under the snow plowing contract. K. Ayers will request that E. Small include this in the list of town properties to be plowed.

The selectmen voted to accept the 1 ½ acre Melville property adjacent to the Marsh Lane Preserve. J. Ratigan's office inquired about the town's interest in purchasing title insurance. After further discussion the committee decided to move forward without acquiring title insurance or a boundary survey as both would cost more than the property is worth. The property is not buildable and is only accessible from the Taylor River or through town land.

Upton and Hatfield bills. The commission decide to vote to pay of these bills once the final bill was received. K. Ayers should let E. Small know that as of the date of the disbursement of the closing documents, we believe all legal work should have seized for this project.

R. Weiner made a motion to pay NHACC \$225 for our 2010 membership dues. J. Williams seconded the motion. Unanimous.

R. Weiner made a motion to pay \$25.91 to ----- for the UPS overnight mailing of RF documents.

After some discussion the commission decided to a table warrant article regarding the January 1st 2009 changes to RSA 36-A. These changes allow towns to 1) support land protection projects by

giving money to qualified organizations (such as land trusts) without taking any interest in the property and 2) spend money on projects that occur outside their municipal boundaries. This article will be re-considered for the 2011 ballot.

J. Williams and B. Burns are working in conjunction with Heather Fabbri and Alison Eberhart to investigate and strategize on the control of invasive species.

JP Pontbriand will compose the next news letter article. It will focus on the successful completion of The Raspberry Farm, provide a glimpse into the future uses of the property and thank residents for their support - due to L. Ruest by February 12th.

There was discussion on an opening event for The Raspberry Farm. Perhaps a town picnic in the spring. There is concern over access to the property prior to the construction of a small parking lot. K. Ayers will ask George Jedlin if he would allow temporary access and parking by the barn.

R. Weiner made a motion to adjourn. JP Pontbriand seconded. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15.

Respectfully submitted,
David Gantt, acting secretary