

Hampton Falls Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes: 5/8/14 DRAFT

Present: Bobbi Burns (Chair), Paul Melanson, Dale Ohsberg, Robert Wiener, Glenn Schrempf; members of the public included Eileen Baker, Max Baker, Tom Baker Jr., Lea Orzechowski, Meredith Karsonvich, and Liz Szeliga (LAS teacher)

Absent: Kay Graham, John Ratigan, Nancy Roka (Vice Chair), JP Pontbriand, David Gandt

Opened meeting at 6:30 p.m.

G. Schrempf made voting member for meeting.

March & April Minutes

Motion: Approve minutes with one type change.

1st: D. Ohsberg

2nd: R. Wiener

Motion approved unanimously.

Compostable Utensils- M. Baker, L. Orzechowski, M. Karsonvich and L. Szeliga from the Mission Impact Environmental Committee made a presentation on their mission of making an impact by decreasing plastic in landfills. At the start of the year, everything provided during lunch was compostable or recyclable, except utensils which amounted to 247.3 lbs of plastic last year alone. The students investigated recyclable, washable, and compostable utensils and determined compostable was the most realistic alternative. Unfortunately they cost approximately \$700 more per year than plastic. The PTO provided \$500. The utensil cost has been built into the budget for future years. The Committee was unfortunately unable to assist with the current year's cost. The students did a fantastic job answering all questions posed by committee members and demonstrated a strong commitment to helping the environment.

D. Ohsberg shared information on battery recycling. L. Szeliga thought the school is already doing something with batteries, but will investigate. B. Burns will check if the town is doing it at white goods day, and if not, investigate the possibility.

L. Szeliga also mentioned that the school is getting money back from recycling electronics. She will share this information with B. Burns who will pursue if it's possible to also do this at white goods day and raise additional funds for the school.

Raspberry Farm – Visit to Kingston Town Forest is scheduled for Thurs., May 15, rain date May 22. We'll meet at the town hall @ 6:00 p.m. with the tour starting at 6:30 p.m. An email will be sent out to everyone reminding them. J. Pontbriand may also be interested in bringing scouts for merit badge purposes.

G. Schrempf doesn't have time to spread ash before the first hay cut, but he will spread the dirt pile. B. Burns needs to get prices on the ash and find out if we can spread in early July after the first cut.

The group discussed whether or not to pursue removal of invasives along the road at Raspberry Farm. G. Schrempf is already trying to cut them back when he mows. No one seemed to think it a good idea. D. Ohsberg mentioned that he's more worried about the Japanese knotweed all over town.

Roadside Cleanup –Roadside cleanup went well. The Mission Impact Group of LAS was a good addition. B. Burns spoke with N. Rineman about an article in the Hampton Union. B. Burns will send a thank you letter to Seabrook Power Station if N. Roka hasn't already done so.

Hampton Falls Conservation Commission

Dues

Motion: Approve previously budgeted annual membership dues to New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions for \$245.

1st: R. Wiener

2nd: D. Ohsberg

Approved unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion: Adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

1st: D. Ohsberg

2nd: P. Melanson

Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by B. Burns, Chair

Next Meeting: Thurs., June 12, 2014, 6:30 p.m.