

Hopkinton Conservation Commission Meeting

Minutes

Town Hall

One Townhouse Road

September 22, 2022 7:00 p.m.

The Meeting was called to Order at 7:04 Members present were Gary Marsh, Chair, David Augustyn, Vice Chair and Deb O'Leary, Secretary. Bob Marvel, Town Council Liaison.

The minutes of the July meeting were approved with no corrections.

Featured Topic: Planning for 2023 items for focus:

Member Development

Hopkinton Farmers Market

Economic Development Support

Coordinate with other organizations i.e. Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Association and Wild and Scenic Rivers Council

Survey of Hopkinton Open Space/ Available properties

Water Preservation: Protecting our aquifer.

Outreach activities i.e. seedlings for Arbor Day, April 28, 2023

We also had a brief discussion concerning the drought and its impact on farms and forests. The recent rain has been helpful, but overall crop yields have been down.

Our Budget for 2022-23 is \$3500. Our expenditures so far have been \$34.67 for printing notice boards for sacred sites.

Public and Member Forum: No members of the public were present. Deb mentioned concerns about the test wells at the Brushy Brook Project. Bob Marvel mentioned that the Town Council was considering the renewal of the Growth Management Ordinance. Also, the Town Council was sent a proposal to allow commercial water sales. The hearing is set for the October 3rd Town Council Meeting. Deb O'Leary's commission appointment expires in November, 2022 and she will not be seeking a third term. Bradley Hodge has moved out of town and will no longer be serving on the Commission. We will miss him.

The dedication of the Brushy Brook Trail will be Sunday, October 23rd, at 2 P.m.

Topics for next meeting: Farmers Market notice.

Our Action Items: Attend or send emails to the Town Council regarding hearing at the October 3, 2022 council meeting. Send draft PDF of HCC handbook to Bob Marvel.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. Next meeting will be October 13th @ 7:00