

HOPKINTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

Thursday, September 12, 2019 at 7 PM

TOWN HALL

I. Call to order The meeting was called to order at 7:02 Present Harvey Buford, John Pennypacker and Deborah O'Leary

II. Approval or correction of minutes and workshop notes The minutes of the August meeting were read and approved with corrections.

III.Featured items

Town Council Wind Hearing 8-19-19 Continued to 10-7-19

Solar and Wind We discussed the response to our questions regarding inspection of solar projects from the Town Planner. He has that responsibility at this time.

State Changes to Wetlands Regulations Public Comment Period Our guest, Kassi Archambault from Wood-PawcatuckWatershed Association spoke about the proposed changes. There will be changes regarding vernal pools, "jurisdictional areas", Master plans must now be approved first followed by a wetlands permit. There is a petition process for towns to ask for statewide changes.. We need to make a list of rivers and streams which may be unnamed but could be impacted by these new regulations. A motion was made and seconded to make our recommendations to DEM in writing.

IV.Officer Reports / Project Updates (5 minutes each, oldest first)

Planning Board / Zoning Board Report (John) No new projects.

Legislation and meetings watch (Deb) Legislature is in recess until January.

V.Old business

Farm Viability Ordinance Draft Changes No new edits or changes

Plan New Process to Produce Maps and Kiosks We have all the materials to continue this project.

Hopkinton Outdoors – Develop a Schedule and Budget for Webpage We approved \$350. at our last meeting for Hopkinton Outdoors webpage and outreach materials.

VI.New Business

A. Manitou Hassannash Preserve RFQ They are currently requesting applications for proposals from historical archaeologists.

VII.Other

VII.Public Forum Mr. Joe Moreau shared his concerns regarding wind turbines and their health impacts and

the concerns of the Hopkinton Community regarding the many solar projects in town.

VIII. Identify topics for next meeting Wetlands, research on Wind impacts.

IX. Review and assign action items John: Hopkinton Outdoors website, Verify John's email that maps as current. Deb: Hopkinton Outdoors outreach. Harvey: letter to DEM re: Wetlands.

XI. Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 9:17pm