

Hopkinton Conservation Commission

Minutes of Remote Meeting

Thursday, February 10, 2022

The Meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Gary Marsh at 7:00 Members in attendance: Deborah O'Leary, Bradley Hodge, Dawn Spears and David Augustyn.

The minutes of the last meeting could not be approved as the only member who was present at that meeting was Deborah O'Leary. They will remain in draft form for the public record.

Featured items

Introduction of New Members: David Augustyn, Bradley Hodge and Dawn Spears all introduced themselves. Gary Marks and Deb O'Leary also introduced themselves to the new members.

Annual Report for 2021 and Election of Officers: At our next meeting we will approve a draft report (prepared by Deb) and plan election of officers.

IV. Reports and Updates:

Planning Board Update (Deb) At the February planning board meeting the public hearing continued for the Skunk Hill Solar and Atlantic Solar projects. Our consulting engineer is looking at both projects. Next month's meeting will focus on the Brushy Brook Housing Development. There are questions regarding water and sanitation we would like answered.

Legislation Watch: Three bills currently in Committee: H2046 to test water for PfAS. H 7066 A bill to protect and preserve old growth forests. H7211 to allow farms to to produce and sell their own pickles and relishes.

V. Old Business:

Kiosks for Brushy Brook, Grills and Crown Farm. Deb is checking prices and seeing if Megaprint can ship the posters.

Budget report remains unchanged. Budget sheet will be sent to members.

VI. New Business:

Discuss ways to communicate conservation issues to Town Residents. Dawn Spears suggested making a video to be placed on the town website.

VII Public and Member Forum:

Joe Moreau welcomed our new members and suggested we organize a meeting of our farmers to review the Farm Viabilty ordinance later this year. We will review FVO changes at a future meeting.

Deb reminded our members that the Land and Water Summit at URI is scheduled for July this year. July 13, 14 and 15 are the dates and it will be in person.

VIII. Action Items: Distribute to members for review: Farm Viability Ordinance, Commission Budget, PSES ordinance. Next meeting will be Thursday, March 10th.

IX. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50. p.m.