

Minutes: Hallowell Conservation Commission

Tuesday February 13, 2018 - 7pm - Hallowell City Hall Auditorium

Present: Cathie Murray, Substitute Chair; Jon Lund, Sarah Shed, Ben Godsoe, Deb Sewall, Karen Simpson, Secretary

A. Call to Order: January minutes approved: Deb Sewall; second: Sarah Shed

B. Update of 2018 membership terms/additions

- Ben Godsoe is filling out an unexpired term. He will be reconfirmed in 2019
- Karen will check Juliet Shagoury's interest in serving on the Commission.

C. ME Association of Conservation Commissions Annual Conference in Brunswick: March 10

- Speakers: Deidrah Stanchfield will describe and show project samples from Maine Conservation Corps' Environmental Steward and Field Team Programs. Fred Snow will discuss how well planned open space subdivisions can be an important tool to protect open spaces
- Several members expressed interest in going

D. Stevens Common Conservation Easement and next steps

- Acceptance of the easement was tabled at the February 12 City Council meeting pending resolution of the size of the buffer zone around the pond as shown on the draft map
- After the Easement is approved, HCC would like to initiate a process, that will include all stakeholders, to use strategic mowing, tree cutting and planting to maintain the field while masking any eventual housing and development abutting the conserved land

E. Rail Trail kiosk

- Karen will post information at the kiosk about the upcoming Brownfields training (Brownfields 101) to be held at City Hall Auditorium February 28. She will continue to maintain the kiosk with current Conservation Commission events and public information

G. NPS - Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program

- The first meeting of the working group of Res stakeholders met prior to the HCC meeting. Minutes are available separately.

H. Open space inventory by category - city, public/state, private, etc

- Cathie indicated we hope to use GIF software will to update the open space inventory. The eventual multi-layered map will include public and private property, and will be useful for city planning, legal matters and conservation issues. She has contacted Code Enforcement Officer Doug Ide for his assistance.

- I. September 2017-June 2018 Priorities:** Continue to work on: Jamies Pond trail cleanup after harvest, Stevens Commons conservation easement), City budget with Diano for Res survey, NPS project for the RES and update Open Space Inventory. Support and work with the city on Down With The Crown. Possible events include talks by geologist Bob Marvinney about the geologic history of Hallowell and the Natural Resources Council about how the Clean Water Act changed the Kennebec River, a program on bats, and an invasive removal activity such as "Bamboo and Brews"; spring migratory bird walks will be scheduled at the Res

- J. City Council Meeting coverage:** March 12 -Rosemary; April 09 - Sarah; May 07 - Ben

Meeting adjourned: 8:00 Respectfully submitted, Karen Simpson, Secretary

Next meeting HCC: March 6 - 7:00pm; NPS - RTCA meeting at 6:00