

**HANSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2020  
HANSON MIDDLE SCHOOL, 111 LIBERTY STREET HANSON, MA 02341**

**Called to Order at 7:00 pm** under M.G.L. c131, §40 and the Hanson By-Law 3-13, §5 and Rules and Regulations by Phil Clemons, Chairman, Hanson Middle School Auditorium, Hanson, MA

**Present:** Phil Clemons, Chairman  
David Mansfield, Clerk  
Paul Andruk, Member  
Thomas Roffey, Jr., Associate Member  
Frank Schellenger, Agent  
Lan Woodward, Administrative Assistant

**Absent:** Sharon LePorte, Vice Chairman  
Bill Woodward, Member

**Also Present:** TJ Woodward, Hanson Boy Scouts Troop 68  
Kevin Keane, Hanson Boy Scouts Troop 68  
Kristine Fraser, Hanson Boy Scouts Troop 68  
Kathleen Woodward

**Business Meeting**

**Discussions**

**TJ Woodward, Hanson Boy Scouts Troop 68 Project**

TJ Woodward presented his Eagle Scout project to the Conservation Commission. He would like to square off the parking area and add recycled asphalt or gravel to make an accessible space for vehicle parking. In addition to the parking area, a trail kiosk to outline the 1-1.5 mile trail which will be about 4-6' wide, so that 2 people can pass. The trail will be looped into the woods by Poor Meadow Brook and back towards the parking lot. Throughout this loop, there will be 5 informational plaques with nature area information. If needed, walkways will be constructed to go over any waterways that the trail may come in contact with. The trail will be lined with logs. Estimated start date November 1, 2020 and estimated end date June 2021. It will include 6 adults and about 10-12 youths to assist with the project and small machinery and equipment will be run by the adults/owner. Materials would be delivered to the worksite. Mr. Woodward included pricing in the proposal and he will be coordinating bottle/can drive to raise money for the project and also present letters to local businesses requesting donations.

Chair Clemons thanked Mr. Woodward for his presentation. The Commission will compose a guidance memo to lay out a plan on how it will succeed and meet everyone's needs which would include presenting the plan to the Board of Selectmen. The Town of Hanson will also provide a Waiver form for the volunteers. He stated it will be important to stay safe in the area and recommended orange vests as a precaution, The Commission will help develop sign content and materials selected should be protected by light, rain, weather, good quality products.

Mr. Andruk stated that the Commission does need some type of long-term maintenance plan.  
Chair Clemons discussed possible future Scout projects, there are lots of leadership opportunities.

**Scheduled Site Visit for Sunday, 10.04.20 at 1:00pm.**

Motion to support project as proposed by TJ Woodward at the Poor Meadow Brook Conservation area by:  
Paul Andruk  
2nd: David Mansfield  
Vote 3-0-0

**Land Management-Planning/Principles**

The Commission reviewed previous Conservation Management Plans which included Marcus L Urann Fisherman's Landing Boat Launch, The Webster-Billings Conservation Area, and also the Hanson Conservation Areas. The Commission would like to start with a couple priorities and work on completing over the course of the year.

Chair Clemons would like to coordinate the future Management Plans to consist of:

Site Photo  
Date of Draft  
Commission Approval Signatures  
Introduction  
Location and Access  
Management Goals and Objectives  
Management Plan Details  
Summary  
Appendix/References

This would allow information readily available for Conservation Areas and on the Town Website.

**Priorities/Projects:**

**Indian Head River Trail**

No update as of this meeting.

**Rocky Run CA**

Mr. Mansfield will work on the Rocky Run CA and research information that is already available. He will also research the vernal pools in the Hanson area.

**Smitty's Bog-NRCS Communications**

**Emergency Certification** for Culvert Maintenance for Hanson Conservation Commission, Alton Smith (Smitty's Bogs) Conservation Area off Indian Head Street - **requires ratification**

Chair Clemons notified the Commission that the surface and shoulder of the town-owned gravel right-of-way (ROW) that crosses the old bog ditch at this location are deteriorating dangerously; this ROW is under the care and custody of the Commission, as is the ½ acre boat launch area which it accesses. Erosion is creating increasing risks to vehicular and pedestrian traffic, endangering both the recreating public and residents/visitors at two homes located along the Indian Head Pond shore. Further, sediment eroding into the waterway creates impacts on natural wetland functions, and also potentially impedes stormwater drainage from upstream residential areas along Katydid Lane.

Commission should consider authorizing a qualified contractor to:

1. Reinstall and augment boulders and stones, along with sand, gravel, and water-permeable anti-erosion fabric, to restore the road shoulder and the equivalent of a headwall around the downstream end of the existing concrete culvert.
2. Remove existing sediment that blocks a majority of the culvert cross section, so as to restore a more natural flow through both the culvert pipe and short distance downstream.
3. Assure sufficient sediment removal so as to reduce risk of interference with stormwater flow onto and through the site from adjacent private properties along Katydid Lane.

Mr. Alan Dias, local contractor, has agreed, at no cost, to fix the issue on an emergency basis.

Contractor work will be supervised and approved upon completion, by the Commission and/or its Agent.

**Motion to Ratify Emergency Certification** for Alton Smith (Smitty's Bogs) Conservation Area off Indian Head Street by: David Mansfield

**Second:** Paul Andruk

**Vote:** 3-0-0

**Indian Crossway CA**

No update as of this meeting.

**Lite Control**

The Commission discussed the Lite Control/Hubbell Property and possible land for sale.

**BCT Gap**

No update as of this meeting.

**Poor Meadow Brook CA**

Project discussed above.

**Conservation Funds Overview**

The Conservation Commission reviewed the Conservation Accounts. Discussion on how funds can be used.

**OSRP Approved**

Chair Clemons notified the Commission that this a lengthy, large document. Ms. Pettey, Town Planner, has gotten the document finished and approved. Old Colony Planning completed the maps. She plans to work with Laurie Muncey, former Conservation Agent, to get the document in hard copy format with updates and copies available, and electronically with the link available through the town website.

Next meeting dates:

**October 28, 2020** at 7:00pm at Hanson Middle School Auditorium  
**November 18, 2020** at 7:00pm at Hanson Middle School Auditorium  
**December 2, 2020** at 7:00pm at Hanson Middle School Auditorium  
**December 16, 2020** at 7:00pm at Hanson Middle School Auditorium

**Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn at 9:04 pm by:** Paul Andruk

**Second:** David Mansfield

**Vote:** 3-0-0

