

**HANSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF MARCH 2, 2022  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM, HANSON TOWN HALL  
542 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, Selectmen's Meeting Room, Hanson Town Hall, Hanson, MA

**Present:** Phil Clemons, Chairman  
Sharon LePorte Vice Chairman  
David Mansfield, Clerk  
Thomas Roffey, Jr., Member  
Frank Schellenger, Agent  
Lan Woodward, Administrative Assistant

**Also Present:** Edwin Heal, Pine Grove Avenue

**Minutes**

January 25, 2022-Open Session Minutes

February 16, 2022

**Motion to approve January 25, 2022 Open Session Minutes by:** David Mansfield

**Second:** Thomas Roffey, Jr.

**Vote:** 3-0-1

**Motion to approve February 16, 2022 Minutes by:** Sharon LePorte

**Second:** David Mansfield

**Vote:** 4-0-0

**Public Hearings** - (None)

**Appointments** - (None)

**Discussions**

**Annual & Special Town Meeting Articles – Due March 4, 2022**

Proposed Articles for the May 2022 Town Meeting:

1. An article for trail construction funds, to be reimbursed by a state grant
2. An article for the annual replenishment of the Conservation Fund
3. An article to amend the Wage and Personnel Bylaws, Article 2 – 12, Classification and Compensation by revising Section 11A: Professional Positions Line E (Conservation Agent) and inserting the new range Line 11 E to \$35,000 to \$89,000
4. An article to restore the position of Conservation Agent to full time status at 35 hours per week

**ARTICLE:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$100,000 for construction of a Park Perimeter Trail / Bay Circuit Trail relocation onto the former Plymouth County Hospital property, as the necessary preliminary step for reimbursement in that same amount through a state Recreational Trail Program grant.

*Proposed by the Conservation Commission, and the Final Plymouth County Hospital Reuse Committee*

**Explanation:** In 2019 the Town successfully applied for a \$100,000 MassTrails Grant, to create a recreational walking trail along the eastern edge of the former Plymouth County Hospital property. This is a reimbursement grant, i.e., the Town must first expend project funds, which will then be reimbursed by the state Department of Conservation and Recreation. This project will relocate a 0.8 mile portion of the Bay

Circuit Trail off High Street and Pierce Avenue, into scenic meadows and forested areas, incorporating renovated old service roads. It will complement future trails that are envisioned within a future Town Park nearby on the site.

**ARTICLE:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to replenish the Conservation Fund.  
*Proposed by the Conservation Commission*

**Explanation:** One of the more important responsibilities of the Conservation Commission is the care and custody of open space land the Town has designated for conservation. These open spaces are included in the Hanson Open Space and Recreation Plan, which describes the Town's goals for acquiring and protecting open spaces and providing public access and passive recreation opportunities. The Conservation Commission has a lead role in implementing this Plan, and works to provide a linked system of trails and greenways that are accessible to the public; create parking spaces at open space access points; and provide passive recreation information by providing maps of open space lands, installing kiosks and signage at access locations, and working with other land conservation groups to expand the open space inventory and access. The Conservation Fund is the means to facilitate these activities.

**ARTICLE:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Wage and Personnel Bylaws, Article 2 – 12, Classification and Compensation by revising Section 11 A: Professional Positions Line E (Conservation Agent) and inserting the new range Line 11 E to \$35,000 to \$89,000.

*Proposed by the Conservation Commission*

**Explanation:** This article is intended to support Article \_\_ for restoring Conservation Agent to full time, thirty-five hours per week.

**ARTICLE:** To see if the Town will vote to restore funding of the position of Conservation Agent as a full time position, which is thirty-five hours per week.

*Proposed by the Conservation Commission*

**Explanation:** The Conservation Agent currently is funded at only nineteen hours per week. Unlike the Health Agent, Town Planner, and Building Inspector, it is the only Department Head position in Town Hall that is not full time. This severely hampers the department's ability to serve the public. A growing number of projects – many being large and complex -- and new issues such Stormwater Management, Hazardous Material releases and other emergencies, pond management, etc., now place great demands on the position. Meeting these demands, and retaining qualified professional staff, call for restoring this position to full time.

**Motion to sponsor the four Conservation Articles at May 2022 Town Meeting by:** David Mansfield

**Second:** Sharon LePorte

**Vote:** 4-0-0

**Property Management Update;** Trash was removed in areas needed.

**Town Forest;** There are two streams that are flowing across the trail. The trail users have been creating makeshift crossings from branches and logs. There are two wet areas that would benefit from bog bridges as trail users are creating a detour off the trail to cross.

**Smith-Nawazaleski;** Parking area is severely rutted and there is a large low area that fills with water/ice. Re-grading should be done in springtime.

**Rocky Run;** The Rocky Run stream crossing remains underwater. On 02.23.22, there was approximately 3-6" of water rushing over the rock crossing.

**Smitty's Bog;** Mr. Mansfield met with Dan Delprete, Dandel Construction, regarding gate/fence repair and boat ramp repair. Proposal amount of \$4,900.00 which would include:

Gate/Fence; Furnish and install, gate set in concrete, supply gate hardware, furnish and install concrete blocks for barrier wall.

Boat Ramp; Remove existing edge of concrete ramp, re-grade and reset precast ramp section and grade as needed for boat off loading and loading.

**Motion to approve and submit Dandel Construction proposal of \$4,900.00 for Smitty's Bog Gate/Ramp Repair to procurement officer, Lisa Green, to be approved by the Board of Selectmen by:** David Mansfield

**Second:** Thomas Roffey, Jr.

**Vote:** 4-0-0

#### **Open Space Acquisition**

**Sleeper Property;** No new update.

**Lite Control Property;** Mr. Smythe, Hubbell Real Estate Manager, plans to follow up within the next few months.

#### **Volunteer Trail Management 101**

No update as of this meeting.

#### **Conservation Summer Intern**

Discussion regarding specific projects for intern. NSRWA has been contacted as well.

#### **Green Hanson**

Green Hanson Clean Up Green Up Earth Fest is 04.23.22 from 9am-1pm. Mr. Mansfield could have volunteers assist in clean up at some of the Conservation sites.

#### **Chessia Consulting**

Agent Schellenger stated that we asked John Chessia, Chessia Consulting, to propose changes to storm drainage at Cranberry Cove. The following outlines the proposed sequence of tasks to be performed:

Existing Conditions Survey	Fee \$5,000.00
Preliminary Plan for improvements based on Existing Conditions Plan. Five hard copies will be provided.	Fee \$3,000.00.
Final design plans and supporting calculations Including two hard copies and a digital copy.	Fee \$8,000.00.
Meetings	Fee \$1,000.00
Filing Fees	Fee Excluded

Conservation Commission to review proposal then to put forth to Recreation Commission to see if they would like to move forward and fund. If they do not act, nothing will happen. Memo to be created along with proposal to forward to departmental offices and distribute. We propose seeking to see if eligible under Covid funds.

**Motion to Accept Distribution with Educational Memo by:** Thomas Roffey, Jr.

**Second:** David Mansfield

**Vote:** 3-0-0

#### **Thomas Mill**

Discussion regarding Mill rentals being handled by Committee only.

**Finance Committee Meeting**

Upcoming finance Committee Meeting on 03.08.22.

**Old Business/New Business - (None)**

**Invoice for Report Review** (Chessia Consulting Services, LLC) MA DEP SE#175-0730 0 County Road, Map 74, Lot 7&8 - **Signed**

**Invoice for Recording** (Registry of Deeds) Map Parcel 49-1-1A - **Signed**

**Invoice for Annual Fire Extinguisher Maintenance at Thomas Mill** (R.E. Lyons & Son) - **Signed**

**Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn at 8:19 PM by:** Thomas Roffey, Jr.

**Second:** David Mansfield

**Vote:** 4-0-0