

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
JULY 11, 2012 AT 5:10 PM
TOWN HALL, 41 SOUTH MAIN STREET**

Members: Doug McIlroy (acting chair), Michael Mayor (Planning Board Liaison)(scribe),

Alternates: Jim Kennedy, John Trummel

Staff: Jonathan Edwards, Vicki Smith

Others: None Present

1. CURRENT BUSINESS

Hayes Farm invasives removal has three workdays planned for July 17,18 & 21. A special invitation to Commission members to serve as greeters on site during the project is extended by Fletcher Passow. All are urged to be responsive to Fletcher Passow's invitation, even if unavailable.

Open Space Priorities:

Pasture Road heirs own 50% undivided interest. Storrs Farm arrangements are a priority item at present. CC asked about sense of the meeting to move to "a priority" or even further to "the priority". Julia needs to be apprised if movement toward that end might be stimulated before Hayes improvements and Etna Library construction is finished.

Appraisal of the Pasture Rd property is pending. Funds are not currently available for acquisition. Development awaits settlement of the issues related to access, with the principals involved unsure about proceeding to develop access.

Kennedy moved to place the purchase of 50% interest in the Pasture Road property to the A list of priorities, seconded by Mayor. Voted unanimously.

2. RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

Rinker Project is on hold till Davey Stocken asserts his commitment to doing the invasive removal project.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

McIlroy presented the UV Trails Alliance arrangements:

Contracted for with John Taylor at \$2000 plus \$100 for travel. The contract involves a reduction in number of hours of trail work from 80 hours to 70 hours in the coming year.

Moved to approve as above, seconded by Mayor

Unanimous among those present

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Biodiversity Committee: Biodiversity Committee looks forward to a lot of work being done at Hayes Farm Park under the guidance of Barbara McIlroy.

Open Space Committee: re Jim Kennedy's work regarding Hayes Park management plan, a draft is anticipated to share ideas for management with neighbors. A formal public session is planned during upcoming CC meeting, ready to adopt same by December, followed by a conservation easement to be submitted to the Hanover Conservancy.

Trails Committee:

McIlroy reports Friends of the AT are proposing 11 Aug (75th anniversary at Harper's Ferry) small local celebration to recognize the occasion. McIlroy will host a hike on Velvet Rocks. Nichole Hastings contact person.

Trescott Board: No activity

5. MINUTES:

May 9 approved as amended. Two in favor, two abstaining.

July 9 Site Visit notes approval moved by Mayor, Seconded by McIlroy, carried unanimously.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Note re enclosure to mailing

Hanover Improvement Society wants to post a Storrs Pond Recreation Area informational sign near Ferguson field with notification to appropriate authorities. Brought to CC for information since it speaks to "recreation" in Hanover, non-profit organization, 30 feet back from the road, 30 inches square, near the upper parking area, to share recognition of the organization and its involvement in the area. This arrangement may precede an effort to establish fees for the use of some of the trails. Hanover Improvement Society initiative, but sign should be closer to 9 by 12. LCHIP sign is already up. Suggest mounting LCHIP sign on the same post. (two square feet on each of two sides) (www.storrspond.org)

7. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 5:59 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael B. Mayor (Planning Board Liaison)