CONSERVATION COMMISSION 9 August 2016 at 3:00 PM Hanover Country Club north end of Rope Ferry Road

In attendance: Members: Ed Chamberlain (Chair), Bill Mlacak **Others:** Vicki Smith, Barbara McIlroy, Matt Gardner, Tim McNamara, Ron Bailey

1. Site Visit for Hole #6 Slope Repairs and Low Bridge at Hanover Country Club

Tim McNamara and Matt Gardner explained the proposal to address erosion at the Hanover Country Club. Ed noted that some of the trail that is currently dirt will be paved. There will also be more than foot travel on the trail. The trail and bridge improvements are designed to accommodate golf course maintenance vehicles that would otherwise use town roads to get from one side of the golf course to the other side. A decision to be made in the future is whether golf carts will use the trails and proposed bridge in lieu of the high golf club bridge.

The Commission viewed two detention areas, each on a different side of Girl Brook and both existing to catch sediment and de-energize stormwater as it cascades down the valley hillsides to Girl Brook. In both cases, the ponds will need to have material removed and each will need a maintenance plan for continued efficacy at detaining water and retaining sediment.

Creating retention basins as part of the golf course design at the level of the golf course as well as leaving a vegetated buffer between the fairways and top of the valley hill sides was suggested. Revegetating disturbed areas with the native ferns and other flora that will be displaced was suggested. Barbara McIlroy was especially concerned with the rare plants found in the valley. She was not convinced that care would be taken to protect them during construction.

Ron Bailey was concerned about the erosion of the channel downstream from the proposed bridge. He pointed out the massive volume of material that has been eroded in the past ten years. This was also evident from the gaping eroded valley along the cartway from the west.

The Commission will meet to discuss recommendations to the zoning board on August 10 at 6:30 PM.

2. Other Business

None

3. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki Smith. Scribe