

Town of Huntington — Huntington Conservation Commission (HCC) Meeting

Thursday, 10 March 2016—7:00 pm

Huntington Library

** UNAPPROVED ** MINUTES

Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and approve the February minutes, review mail • Public Comment • Town Forest Public Engagement Forum (April 21) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1. Focus: Should we sell the current TF and use proceeds for new one? ○ 2. Process/format/promotion – Discuss external facilitator ○ 3. Action items • HCC Work Plan and Priorities – For next 12 months <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1. Sugarmakers’ Open House (4/2-4/3): contact sugarmakers, press release, what else? ○ 2. Discuss updates to current plan (e.g., current and any new priorities) ○ 3. Collaboration with Huntington Historical and Community Trust (HHCT) ○ 4. Next Steps • Updates: CTA easement (Feb 22 public hearing), budget, other outstanding agenda items, business or updates • Adjourn
Members present:	Sheri Lynn (Co-Chair), Rebecca Ryan (Co-Chair), Darlene Paola, JB Bryan, Roman Livak and Jenna Whitson.
Staff/Officials present	Clerk, Terry Ryan
Others present	None
Call to order	R Ryan called the meeting to order at 19:00. No mail.
Approval of Minutes (11 February 2016) – MOTION	MOTION: Livak motioned and Palola Darlene seconded to approve the draft minutes of 11 February 2016, amended to correct the Town Forest discussion with Hinesburg’s Andrea Morganti. Passed unanimously.
Mail	No mail.
Public Comment	None
Agenda	Discussion
Topic: Town Forest (TF)	Town Forest Public Engagement Forum will be April 21, 7 PM at the Library. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some discussion regarding a comment from Aaron Worthley that this date is during school break and that might affect participation. Commission considered this but determined that there is no perfect date, the meeting has already been announced, and the Library might not be available other dates. HCC decided to stick with the April 21 forum.

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<p>ACTIONS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Focus of meeting: Should we sell the current TF and use proceeds for new one. Lynn led a planning discussion noting that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ HCC has been trying to improve access but it will likely never be suitable for handicapped or other limited users. ○ Remo Pizzagalli has offered to purchase the current TF ○ This creates an opportunity to do something ○ Forum is to collect information for HCC to present to the Selectboard (SB) ● Whitson made the point that no decision has been made. Lynn noted that in addition to the Forum, some other means of gathering Town opinion must be pursued (SurveyMonkey, etc.). Ryan noted that it might be good to have someone who was involved with the TF 2009 report brief that; suggested Heather Pembroke. Ryan to contact her. ● Discussion revolved around format of meeting, formal or informal, Q&A or take comments only. HCC plan is to keep meeting formal, may adjust depending on number of attendees. ● Structure of meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Welcome – R Ryan ○ TF Background – Pembroke ○ Current events and vision for future – Lynn ○ Brief Q&A –Whitson ○ 15 min break for attendees to discuss and reflect ○ Formal comment – Lynn ○ “Popcorn” brainstorming session of what Town wants ○ Close – Lynn ● Actions related: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ See if Heather Pembroke will participate – Ryan ○ Draft detailed agenda – Whitson ○ Promote to Huntington Historical and Community Trust (HHCT), Planning Commission, Energy Committee, County Forester, Tree Warden, Fellowship of the Wheel, Camels Hump Nordic, other interested parties – Ryan ○ Front Porch Forum posting- Lynn ○ Times Ink 1/8 page ad – Ryan ○ Flyer - Whitson ○ Meeting scribe (posterboard) – Palola ○ Food – all HCC members to bring something
<p>Topic: HCC Workplan</p> <p>ACTIONS</p>	<p>HCC Work Plan and Priorities – Lynn noted that there may be just too many things on the HCC’s plate and suggested prioritizing and categorizing the many aspect of the Workplan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Palola noted that the Stormwater mitigation planning grant has actions coming up. ● ECOS wildlife corridors continue to vex the HCC. ACTION: Whitson to investigate what other Towns have done to identify them. Beyond that, the HCC will drop this topic indefinitely. ● Amphibians – brochure to be updated. ACTION: Ryan to seek estimate/redo for Resting Lion Studio (John Hadden) ● Invasives – wild parsnip, insects, etc., add to workplan as a category. ● Sugarmakers’ Open House, Lynn to try to get the HHCT to take this as a regular task rather than HCC. ● Workplan structure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Priority efforts (TF and Stormwater)(Lynn/Palola) ○ Promotion (education opportunities, amphibians, recruiting to HCC, etc. Whitson to be POC) ○ Invasives (Parsnip, Insects etc.)(Bryan) ○ Events (Special Places tours, public information sessions etc.)

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Updates	<p>Updates:</p> <p>Catamount Trail Association Easement: Ryan discussed the public meeting, which was more contentious than expected. Easement is now complete.</p> <p>Budget: No discussion</p> <p>Clerk: Terry Ryan has resigned as clerk, but will stay on until another one is found.</p>
Adjourn MOTION	MOTION: Livak motioned and Palola seconded to adjourn the meeting at 2100. Passed unanimously.
	<p>21 April 2016 – TF meeting in lieu of HCC monthly meeting at the Huntington Public Library</p> <p>14 March 2016 – Draft/unapproved minutes sent to Town Clerk for website posting</p> <p>TBD 2016 – Final/approved minutes approved</p> <p>TBD 2016 – Approved minutes sent to Town Clerk for recording & website posting</p>

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