

**Hamilton Conservation Commission  
Minutes of Meeting of July 26, 2016  
Meeting held at Hamilton Senior Center**

Commissioners present:

Chair Richard Luongo, Bob Cronin, Virginia Cookson, Keith Glidden (arrived at 7:01 p.m.), Tom Myers, George Tarr

Staff present:

Jim Hankin, Conservation Agent

Others present:

Chris LaPointe, Director of Land Conservation, ECGA  
Hannah Wilbur, Land Conservation Associate, ECGA

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Richard Luongo opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

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**Conservation Restriction; Municipal Certification**

**236 Sagamore Street**

CR on 24.2 acre portion of 38.8 acre parcel

**Conservation Restriction; Municipal Certification**

**218 Sagamore Street**

CR on 15 acre portion of 25.9 acre parcel

**Conservation Restriction; Municipal Certification**

**264 Sagamore Street**

CR on 24 acre portion of 33.8 acre parcel

**Conservation Restriction; Municipal Certification**

**321 Sagamore Street**

CR on 24.3 acre portion of 29.1 acre parcel

The municipal certifications are for four privately donated conservation restrictions (CR) to Essex County Greenbelt (ECGA) in Hamilton that are part of a larger 500 acres across three towns (total of nine conservation restrictions) in Hamilton, Essex and Ipswich. .

Chris LaPointe noted that for the Wheaton CR 25 acres wraps around the house and public access is limited to the existing Essex County Trail Association (ECTA) trail. There are no significant trails on the conservation restrictions at Thomas, Parker, and Pingree parcels. There are ECTA trails in the area which are off of the conservation restrictions. The CRs were drafted so these landowners are not required to provide public access. Land owned in fee by ECGA is open to the public.

Some of these property owners are interested in the possibility of forestry use on their parcels (i.e., to expand pasture). If any cutting is proposed in the buffer zone or within jurisdiction, a

property owner would have to come before the Commission. When a property owner files a formal Forest Cutting Plan it is filed and approved by a separate agency. The Commission after it is approved may comment on the plan to the agency. Forestry work in upland does not come before the Commission. ECGA put forestry allowance in the CRs including for parcels where forestry would not occur so the documents are permanent and will not need to be amended. Mr. LaPointe further noted that written permission to hunt on these parcels would have to be sought from private landowners.

Keith Glidden moved that the conservation restrictions for the Parker, Thomas, Pingree and Wheaton properties all serve a public benefit for purposes of the Commission issuing the municipal certifications required by the state for all properties. Virginia Cookson seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

### **Minutes Approval – July 13, 2016**

George Tarr provided amendments to the minutes. Jim Hankin will amend and bring back for Commission approval.

### **Coordinator's Report**

Mr. Hankin reported that DPW Director Bill Redford will no longer be working in Town as of the end of July. Another Town official will have to oversee the Bridge Street culvert replacement project. The water ban is in place for Hamilton. Mr. Hankin is on vacation next week. Telephone calls will be directed to the Commission chair.

Bob Cronin moved to adjourn. Tom Myers seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion. Commission adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Minutes submitted August 4, 2016 by Jane Dooley