

Hancock Common Commission Meeting Minutes - Sept. 15, 2022

In attendance: Allison Kerwin, Dave Drasba, Tyler Howe, Ginger Smith, Mary Seebart, Deb Sampson

Start time: 4:02PM

Minutes for Aug. 16, 2022 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Dave presented work he had done on the proposed 2023 Common Commission budget. Line item review identifying areas that may need to be adjusted to reflect rate increases for services and purchases. Discussed projected projects /repairs anticipated in 2023. Noted need for the fountain to be sand blasted, lower base cleaned and repainting; refinishing the Town Bandstand/gazebo, tree trimming, removal and replacement; completion of flag pole lighting project; and general maintenance needs. Dave will continue to work on budget proposal for committees review later this month.

Work on the flag pole and related lighting will be completed in 2023. The light fixture and conduit materials will be purchased from this years budget for next years instillation. Allison noted that the cost of flags has increased to around \$500 for the size needed for the Commons.

Deb Sampson asked for the input from Common Commission members on two agendas, which she agreed to bring to this meeting. Both are in the exploratory stage.

1. The placement of a sign that would provide another means of getting information to individuals (re: upcoming town meetings, hearings, voting, etc.) Selectmen and other have expressed concerns about needing other ways to get information to residents. Questions and concerns shared by Common Commission members related to sign size, ability to read it from a moving vehicle, location which would not impede line of sight or increase the risk of car or pedestrian accidents due to distracted drivers. Common Commission members were in agreement that they were not in favor of the Town Commons as an area of consideration for the town placement.
2. Library has a crab apple tree and some bushes that are impinging on the septic system. It was clarified that the only plants near the library that fall under the responsibility of the Common Commission are 2 trees planted in front of the library next to main street. Suggestions and ideas were offered, recommending removal of problematic bushes and tress. Idea offered to make a potted plant garden that could be moved around and would not ineg. mpact the building structure or septic.

Brief history of the Hosley Grant from the 1800's which granted specific areas of land in Hancock be set aside and made into town common areas. Dave presented a map marking this area. He asked about the current remapping being done for the town and if this area could be one of the visual layers created during this mapping process.

Revisited the concerns expressed by the new owners of the Hancock Inn, that the tree planted by the Common Commission impinges on the sight line for Tombstone Territory Road running next to the inn. The tree still has it's basket on from initial planting so will be taken out and planted at the town Beach, behind the fence line.

Next meetings: Sept 22nd, 2022, 4:00PM, at the Hancock DPW, budget review.
Oct. 4th, 2022, 10:00AM, starting in front of the Town Offices,
tree walk around Town Commons.

Adjourned: 5:25PM: Mary Seebart