

Hampton Conservation Commission

November 26, 1979

The meeting was opened at eight o'clock by chairman Peter Randall, with Ednapearl Parr, Neil MacPherson and Ruth Nutter present. The secretary's report was given, and accepted as read. The treasurer noted that \$110 was withdrawn on October 23, \$100 being sent to the Environmental Coalition, as was voted in October, and \$10 retained for petty cash. Our account received a dividend of \$103.30, making a balance of \$3739.20 as of this date.

Old business: Ednapearl reported that she could not attend the meeting at Alex Herlihy's home in Rye as planned, as that was the night that we were invited to meet with the Selectmen. Peter spoke with John Medlock and Mr. Sevigney about our having a file in the Town Office. Both agreed to the suggestion, and Mr. Medlock felt certain that a space for it could be found in his office.

There was a public hearing on Mr. Danielian's condominiums last Tuesday. Vic Lessard is putting in 200 yds. and the area to be filled must be staked and the wetlands board will then check it.

Mr. Dube's petition to put in a ramp to launch a boat, the ramp being eight to twelve feet wide, has been granted. In regard to Mr. Brown, beyond Jerry's restaurant, a petition was filed by him for filling. Peter wrote to George McGee, stating that we, with Mr. Woithe of the Fish and Game, had walked the entire area, and requested that no more fill be allowed, that winter rye be sown on all filled land, and in the spring it should be plant-

ed to grass. Peter attended a Conservation Trust meeting at ~~Mr. Henlidy's~~ -- Mary Louise Woolsey was also there and evidently became interested in the question of wetlands, indexing etc., as was evident in our meeting with the Selectmen.

New business: Ruth made a motion, seconded by Edna pearl that Peter buy new stationery for our commission, as what little we have falls in the antique class. We voted that Neil order the book recommended by Mr. Woithe, "Wetland Plants of the Eastern United States". Irene has not yet been given a notice of current use assessment from Mr. Prommer's office. Ednapearl told us that in conjunction with her being on the Public Works Committee, and sub-chairman of the South East Public Works, she had seen to it that the railroad bridge by Lemay's has been repaired, and that a guard rail at Hampton river by Jerry's, on the right for a distance of 200 feet be placed. Also an overhead traffic light will soon be installed at Rte. #1 and 51. Following our custom, there will be no meeting in December. This meeting was adjourned at 9:30.

Submitted by

Ruth M. Nutter

Secretary

Marshes ^{Nov 13} ¹⁹⁷⁹ near point of saturation

HAMPTON — The marshes in Hampton have just about reached their saturation point. Forty percent of the town is marshland that is becoming more and more adversely affected by new building.

Last night the Conservation Commission met with Hampton selectmen to discuss what kind of positive steps to take regarding the vulnerable Hampton wetlands.

Selectman Mary Louise Woolsey, who called for the meeting, said that they must begin logically planning to protect the wetlands and other natural resources in Hampton.

So far there has been no overall plan to identify and manage the Hampton wetlands.

Ruth Pearl Carr, commission member, said that she "hates to see any more houses built near the marshes because it just pushes the water somewhere else."

John Walker, selectman, said that he saw the problem as added drainage from new houses.

"Additional drainage flows into Fresh Meadow Pond which used to be a good place to absorb water," said Walker.

"Now the pond is always full," said Walker who felt that the problem is intensified during storms because the pond always used to absorb the storm water.

Irene Parker, commission member, said that the old timers knew how to take care of the marshes.

"But," said Allen Bridle, selectmen chairman, "there has been more and more sneak filling of the marshes in this town."

Bridle said that he wanted to call for an ordinance that would allow walls to be erected as a solid line of demarcation between buildable and marsh land.

"That way we know when someone fills in a marsh," said Bridle.

Selectman Woolsey said she wanted to see an overall plan.

"Everyone is sitting here and saying, 'we really should preserve the marsh' but the engine just isn't running," said Woolsey.

Ruth Nutter, another commission member who attended last night's meeting, said that as a first step she would contact Durham and see how they began the task of mapping and managing their wetlands.