

DRAFT MINUTES

Meeting of the Conservation Land Review Committee & the Ad-hoc Land Trust Standards Committee of the Tamworth Conservation Commission December 1, 2008 - Tamworth Town Offices

Draft minutes to be reviewed at a subsequent meeting.

Present: Ned Beecher, Chris Conrod, John Mersfelder, Margaret Rieser, David Little, Katy Thompson; Scott Aspinall arrived for the second part of the meeting (on land trust standards)

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 pm.

1. Land conservation matters. Vote to go into non-public session for discussion exploring potentially buying, selling, or leasing property or conservation easements where immediate public disclosure may give an unfair advantage over the municipality. Moved by John, seconded by Ned; roll-call vote Ned: yes; Margaret: yes; David: yes; John: yes; no opposing votes or abstentions.

---Non-public session---

David moved, John seconded, and all approved leaving non-public session; David moved, John seconded, and all approved sealing the minutes (roll call votes in the affirmative by Ned, Margaret, David, and John; no opposing votes or abstentions.

2. Land trust standards

This was the second meeting on this topic, addressing the recommendations of the CLRC for the TCC to attain the standards of land trusts in its operations dealing with town ownership of lands and conservation easements. The group reviewed the table that David and the CLRC had developed, reviewed decisions made at the first meeting, and assigned final tasks to be completed before the proposed language for various policies and protocols are given back to the CLRC for inclusion in their Natural Resource Inventory and land protection standards report to the TCC.

Action items:

- TCC should review bylaws, including “purpose” (mission statement) at some time in the near future and regularly thereafter.
- Ned will complete discussions with Cassandra re records policy and with Mary Mills re accounting and auditing
- The TCC will work to develop a stewardship and enforcement fund: a) Ned will discuss with Selectmen having a warrant article this March to transfer \$5K to this new fund (housed within the Conservation Fund, if possible); b) David and/or Scott will forward to Ned some of the kinds of systems others have used to calculate the necessary level of money to aim to have in this new fund; c) the Commission will work over the next couple of years to get this level of money

into the fund; d) the Commission and Town will seek contributions to this new fund from all future easement projects (but remaining flexible on this).

- John will incorporate the land trust standard details from Standards 8, 9, and 10 into the Commission's easement acquisition protocol.
- Margaret will write draft standards for Standard 11 E, F, G, and I (Ned will assist as needed).

3. Adjournment Ned moved and John seconded and all approved adjournment at 9:40 pm.