

**Tamworth Conservation Commission  
 - Conservation Lands Review Committee-  
 Committee Meeting Minutes  
 February 17, 2006**

A working session of Tamworth's **Conservation Lands Review Committee** was held on February 2006, at 7:00 pm at the Tamworth Town Office conference room.

**Committee Members in Attendance:** Chris Conrod, Chair, Chele Miller, David Little, Elaine Cleveland, Margaret Rieser, John Mersfelder.

**Visitor in attendance:** Scott Aspinall

1. **January's Meeting Minutes:** were accepted as submitted and will be posted on the Tamworth Exchange website.

**Recording of Agenda Items addressed and actions assigned:**

2. Review Goals and Procedures:

NHACC Manual: John Mersfelder distributed copies of Chapters 5 & 6 of the handbook in which guidelines were cited. The material appeared to give more clarity to the processes involved in NRI indexing.

<i>Action:</i>  <i>Homework for March 16</i>	Since the work of identifying the components of the NRI is ongoing, committee members were asked to read through and consider the material. Does it provide further clarity to what our goals & objectives should include? Does it introduce a category we had overlooked? Suggestions of specific processes toward a more successful compiling, indexing, and producing of the natural resource list are to be noted. New considerations will be discussed at the March 16 <sup>th</sup> meeting.
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<i>Committee members "Agreed"</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Areas of poorly drained soil</u> will be added as a new category following "Wetlands".</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Air Quality</u> will be added as a new category. (<i>Committee felt this would be a major concern in the future.</i>)</li> <li>• <u>Invasive Species</u> will be added as a new category under "Vegetation". (<i>Ex. Knotweed overtaking the banks along the Swift River.</i>)</li> </ul>

<i>Assignments:</i>  <i>Margaret J</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add the category <u>Forest Communities</u>.</li> </ul> <p>The Town Clerk's Office keeps a file for every landowner who has qualified for "Current Use" status. A listing of types of hardwoods and softwoods found on the designated acreage is a part of this record. Margaret will look through a few files to get a better idea of how detailed the listing is, and whether this information would be a resource for indexing purposes.</p>
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<i>Agreed</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Map sizes should all be of the same scale.</li> </ul>
<i>Assignments:</i> <i>Chris J</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chris will look over "Land SAT Maps" (for size manageability for digitalizing).</li> </ul>

**Defining Committee Tasks, Procedures, and Goals:**

Scott Aspinall voiced his concern that the committee actively focus on methods to

- Help Tamworth residents and landowners understand what the committee was doing.
- Provide opportunities for informing them regularly of the findings and progress of the committee.
- Use this inventory as a tool for future growth planning.

This opened further discussion centered on what purpose the NRI would eventually serve.

<i>Agreed</i>	The NRI is a collection of facts prepared for general consumption. Other committees of the Town will use these facts to help in meeting their own objectives. The NRI will contain a Summary whose language will be accessible and readable.
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3. Progress Update

- a. *Current Use Map:* David Little passed around an example of a map exercise completed by the Community School using data they had not seen before.

<i>Action</i>	Other proposed map layers to construct:
<i>Chris J</i>	• <u>Granite Soil Deposits</u>
<i>Chris J</i>	• <u>Prime Wetlands Map</u> Using Barry Keith’s map as a guide, along with various others, an attempt will be made to consolidate information into a digitalized map. Chris will digitalize this information using the USDS base map.

4. Focus Discussion - Cultural Resources - Scenic:

Progress Report:

- Elaine Cleveland showed a collection of various photos capturing the known and not so known scenic areas around Tamworth.
- A brainstorming session dealt with the difficulty of inventorying places of beauty when “beauty” has a different meaning to everybody. What do we include, what do we not include?

<i>Action to consider</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include more buildings: Wonalancet Chapel; Barnstormers; Cook Library</li> <li>• <u>Poster</u> to display at the Town Meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>• <u>Polling Survey:</u> survey the public for their “places of beauty”.</li> <li>• Elaine to send disc to Chris. Possible that a display board collage will be made from photos.</li> </ul>
<i>Chris? J</i>	
<i>? J</i>	
<i>Elaine J</i>	
<i>All J</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Produce one short paragraph of an original thought, or an excerpt from a poem, about what we would like to hear, or see, or sense -- that would expand the “Scenic” category into “Aesthetic”. Paragraphs will be compiled into a description.</li> </ul>

<i>All J</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Send paragraph to Elaine at <a href="mailto:elainecleve@ncia.net">elainecleve@ncia.net</a></li></ul>
<i>Elaine J</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Will prepare a draft for the “Scenic”- “Aesthetic” Summary section.</li></ul>

**Note:**

On the evening of the meeting, Tamworth and surrounding towns were experiencing an electrical power outage which continued 48 hours or longer for some residents. Agenda items not covered Feb. 17th, because material could not be downloaded, will be continued as agenda items for the March 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. They are:

- |      |                          |                        |
|------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| I.   | Notes from Steve Whitman | <i>Chris Conrod</i>    |
| II.  | Agricultural Soils       | <i>Margaret Rieser</i> |
| III. | Surface Water            | <i>Chris</i>           |
| IV.  | Focus Discussion         |                        |
|      | a. Wildlife              | <i>Chris/Chele</i>     |

**Next Meeting Date:**

**March 16, 2006**

**Town Office-Conference Room**

**7:00 pm**

Minutes and meeting times will be posted on the Tamworth Exchange.

Conservation Lands Review Committee Meetings are open meetings  
– everyone is welcome. We welcome your participation.