

**Draft Minutes
Tamworth Conservation Commission
Managed Lands and Trails Committee
April 30, 2007 Town Offices 7:15 pm**

Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting.

Present: John Mersfelder, Charlie Townsend, David Haskell, Donna Veilleux

1. Administration:

John M. announced a potential meeting with BOS, PB, and TCC is in the planning stages and to stay posted for a future date. John indicated he thinks it is a meeting to discuss communications/procedures amongst the boards. A limited amount of discussion was had among board members all indicating this would facilitate positive and better communication amongst the boards .

John M. asked if all members received the e-mail referencing this meeting from Chairperson of the TCC, Bryan Berlind- all did. David H. indicated Bryan did in fact call him before he sent the e-mail communication recommending David H. for chair of this committee. Given that David H. had pondered this possibility, John M. nominated David H. for chair of this committee, Donna V. seconded, all approved. John M. indicated he would remain on this committee and sees his role as one of a resource for information about the TCC and this committee. John M. nominated Donna V. for secretary, seconded by David H., all approved.

John M. referred all members to Committees with the TCC membership in the TCC handbook, 4B, Managed Lands and Trails Committee. John reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the committee. John suggest that maybe an overlap of responsibilities with the Publication, Publicity and Public Outreach Committee. Charlie T. suggests that a checklist of responsibilities for each of the identified areas would be a helpful guide; he also noted some of the properties are not signed (identified).

David H. suggests that all properties the TCC is responsible for should be identified by Map and Lot # in the TCC handbook, all agreed.

FYI'S

John and others brought the committee up to date with some FYI'S...

Remick Natural Area. Rusty pole needs attention.

Estella Perkins's conservation easement page 6 is incorrectly identified as Map 416 and should be Map 420.

Chris Clyne and Bill Batchelder are working on the text of the TCC brochures while Chris Conrod is re-doing many of the maps in the TCC brochures. Chris Conrod is holding off on the WFH map until more info is available. Chris Conrod is in touch with Minute Man Press regarding minor changes.

On the Easy Walker Trail, many of the numbers are missing. Charlie T. noted that many of the items those missing #'s were identifying might also be missing. All agreed a closer look is required.

Jackman Pond; David H. indicated "bridge" appears to be washed-out and that this is a yearly occurrence. Charlie T. suggests the word bridge is hardly what should be used to identify the structure; it is agreed our attention is needed on this "bridge" like structure. .

Big Pine Natural Area sign needs some attention.

There is no mention of the fire tower in the TCC brochures.

Chris Clyne has registered the Fire Tower with the Natural Historic Look-Out Towers. The BOS hope to do some sort of dedication ceremony sometime in Sept 07.

Perkins Trail is managed by the TCC with the help of the Community School.
Mill Brook Trail appears not to be the responsibility of the TCC and is managed by Sandwich Conservation Commission. John M. suggests that we should contact them as a courtesy.

Page Hill Trail Easement not on town owned property...The TCC's responsibility is to keep the view and the trail opened.

Mowing:

John M. indicated the two fields that are generally mowed yearly are the Bear Camp Field and the WFH field. David H. observed that there are many birds that migrate/feed in the Bear Camp Field and maybe we should consider not mowing every year. No decision made.

Betty Steel Memorial:

John M. led a discussion on the possibilities on this memorial. After a short discussion, John asked the members if they would like to have this discussion with the full TCC board at their regular monthly meeting, all indicated they would. Discussion will continue on the next TCC regular mtg.

Individual Assignments:

Trails were divided up amongst members to walk and make observations.

Charlie T.: Earle Remick Area, new trail to the fire tower, Kennett Triangle, Bear Camp Field.

Donna V.: WFH and Black Spruce Bog Ponds.

John M.: Big Pines Natural Area, Loop Trail, Easy Walker Trail and Spur Trail to fire tower.

David H.: Jackman Pond Trail, Charles and Alice Thompson Natural Area, and Thompson Field.

All members will attempt to walk their identified areas and have something to share with the TCC at the next regular meeting on April 14, 2007.

Big Pines Natural Area Special Use Permit

John M. indicated the permit for the Big Pine Natural Area is need of renewal... John M. also indicated on page 8 of the TCC handbook the TCC is responsible for notifying the state, (Division of Forest and Lands) every two years. John M. asked David H. if he would follow-through on this renewal/notification. David indicated yes he would.

Motioned to adjourn made by Donna Veilleux, seconded by David Haskell, all approved at 8:30 pm.

Draft minutes respectfully submitted by Donna Veilleux, May 6, 2007.