

Tamworth Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes – January 9, 2017

Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting

Call to Order – Nelson O'Bryan called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Commissioners present were Chele Miller, Rich Gerard, William Batchelder, Nelson O'Bryan, Bob Seston and Ned Beecher. Commissioners absent: Stephanie Doyle. Alternates present: Eric Dube. Nelson directed Eric to sit in the empty seat.

Also present: Steve Gray, Selectman; Corey Lane, Green Mountain Conservation Group (GMCG); Lucy Gatchell.

Approval of Minutes for 11/14/2016 – Moved by Batch to accept the minutes with the correction of changing “he” to “she” as the proper pronoun for Corey Lane. Ned seconded, motion carried.

GMCG Water Quality, Monitoring and Outreach – Corey Lane gave a presentation on GMCG's work in the Ossipee River Watershed in general and Tamworth in particular. GMCG is working on individual town plans for water quality protection. The Tamworth plan has yet to be done. It will eventually be presented to the town for use in planning. Results from water quality monitoring indicate that Tamworth's rivers are mainly in good shape.

Administrative

Announcements: Received a copy of a NH-DES letter to the owner of Tax Map/Lot 214/183 concerning a residential access bridge that was apparently built without the proper state permit. The letter requests the owners to submit an application for approval of the bridge.

Membership: Bob Seston has declined the opportunity to accept another term as commissioner. TCC thanks him for his service. Alternate John Watkins is willing to step up as full commissioner. Lucy Gatchell is willing to accept appointment as a new alternate on the commission. Chele moved that TCC recommend to the Selectmen that they (1) reappoint Ned Beecher and Rich Gerard as full commissioners; (2) appoint John Watkins as a new full commissioner; (3) reappoint Charlie Townsend as an alternate; and (4) appoint Lucy Gatchell as a new alternate. Ned seconded, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report/Financial – Bob reported that TCC expended \$5099.30 of its 2016 annual budget. Line items that were not expended include Professional Fees, Tower Maintenance, and Printing.

Land Use Change Tax (LUCT) – Bob reported that around \$3500 of 2016 LUCT funds will be deposited in the Conservation Fund. Ned reported that the petition for increasing the maximum amount of the LUCT to be deposited in the Conservation Fund is now at The Other Store, collecting signatures.

Selectmen – Steve Gray announced that the Selectmen will hold the public hearing on the proposed 2017 town budget on February 9 at the Town Office, exact time to be announced. The Selectmen plan to have the budget printed and available to the public well in advance of the hearing.

Conservation Easements – Nelson reported no new news concerning the Albee-Moscato negotiations.

Public Outreach – Nelson reported that the three winning photos of the 250th contest have been printed and will be displayed at the Town Office. Chele reported that the tree cookie and stand will soon be returned to Mead Base.

Easement Monitoring – Chele reported on the various services Steve Walker (NH-OEP) offers and encouraged monitors to either take Steve up on his offers or suggest to Chele any services that they would be interested in participating in as a group.

Managed Lands and Trails – Nelson stated that the first priority for Spring maintenance work will be the wet section of trail at Waterfowl Haven.

Other Business – Chocorua Lake Conservancy is wrapping up a land conservation project that will protect the top of Wahington Hill. It has been confirmed that the Page Hill lot with the public trail easement granted to Tamworth has been sold. Nelson will contact the new owners.

Adjourn – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Batch moved, Eric seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.