

## **Tamworth Conservation Commission**

Draft Minutes – April 10, 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, Stephanie Doyle and John Watkins. Commissioners absent: Ned Beecher. Alternates present: Eric Dube and Lucy Gatchell. Nelson directed Eric to sit in the empty seat.

Also present: Steve Gray, Selectman.

**Approval of Minutes for 03/13/17** – Moved by Batch to accept the minutes as written. Stephanie seconded, motion carried.

**Administrative Announcements:** There will be a Wildlife Action Plan Conservation Round Table Thursday April 27, 2017, 6 - 8pm at Runnels Hall. This is sponsored by Green Mountain Conservation Group (GMCg), New Hampshire Fish and Game, and others.

### **Treasurer's Report/Financial**

Ned requests reimbursement of \$392.31 for covering three years worth of internet domain registration and email service. John moved, Eric seconded, motion carried.

Nelson requested reimbursement of \$60 each for Lucy, John and Chele to cover registration fees for attending the 2017 Saving Special Places meeting/workshops. Eric moved, Batch seconded, motion carried.

**Saving Special Places** – Lucy, John and Chele reported on the keynote address and workshops they attended. Topics included mapping, carbon credits, rules changes, et al. The current buzzword is RESILIENCE.

**Selectmen** – Steve Gray reported that the Selectmen have asked for abutter status in the Ossipee Planning Board review of an application for a gas station at the corner of Routes 41 and 16. There are concerns about the aquifer and a pre-existing gasoline plume in the soil. The Ossipee Planning Board will be reviewing the application on April 18.

**Planning Board** – Eric reported that the Planning Board is discussing the possibility of proposing a new groundwater protection ordinance or wetlands ordinance. They will most likely choose to do the groundwater ordinance. There will be a work session on April 26. Nelson will try to attend and Ned should be notified.

### **Public Outreach**

Summer Camp Scholarships: Rich has found two campers for the Barry 4-H camp. He also has someone interested in a short Tin Mountain program, which, all scholarships combined, would total a hundred dollars or so over the budget line item. TCC will have funds available from other line items. Eric moved to authorize covering all three scholarships. Stephanie seconded, motion carried.

Mushroom Walks: Stephanie offered to organize and lead a mushroom walk sometime in the summer or early fall. The offer was gratefully accepted. She will work out the details.

Letter Boxing: Stephanie suggested that TCC participate in letter boxing, a sort of low-tech geo-caching, as a way of promoting TCC trails. Agreed to purchase two each ink pads, stamps, and notebooks. Commissioners should come up with location suggestions at next meeting. If these prove popular, more trails can be added.

Nelson gave Melanie Streeter two patches and trail brochures for the 250<sup>th</sup> time capsule.

**Further Announcements** – Nelson announced that the warrant article for increasing the maximum amount of LUCT funds that can be placed in the Conservation Fund passed at the annual town meeting.

**Easement Monitoring** – It's never too early to monitor your easement. Lucy would like to accompany some monitors during their property inspections so invite her along.

**Managed Lands and Trails**

Batch said that the map boxes, complete with maps and brochures, will all be out in the next few weeks.

Nelson will schedule an organized trail work day as soon as he knows which trails are most in need of help. Clean-up on Perkins Trail will be later in the season. Let Nelson know if you want to do any specific trail work on other dates.

The Page Hill Trail property has not been sold. John will try again to contact the landowners to see about getting permission for some view clearing.

**Other Business**

Nelson will not be available to chair the May TCC meeting. He will ask if Ned can do it. If not, the meeting will probably be canceled.

Ned will be leading the bird walks on April 19 & 26 and on May 3, 10 & 17. 7 am at the Town House parking lot. It has been posted on the web site.

**Adjourn** – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Batch moved, Eric seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.

*Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.*