

Tamworth Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes – February 12, 2018

Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting

Call to Order – Nelson O'Bryan called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Commissioners present were Nelson O'Bryan, Stephanie Doyle, Rich Gerard, John Watkins and William Batchelder. Commissioners absent: Chele Miller and Ned Beecher. Alternates present: Lucy Gatchell, Eric Dube and Charlie Townsend. Nelson appointed Charlie and Eric to fill the empty seats. John had to deal with a phone conference during the early part of the meeting; Lucy sat in for him until he returned.

Also present: Steve Gray, Selectman; Dexter Harding, TCC Alternate appointee; and David Little, man with many hats.

Approval of Minutes for 01/08/2018 – Eric noted two instances of random punctuation in the Call to Order section, for which the Administrative Assistant humbly and profusely apologizes. Batch moved to accept the minutes. Lucy seconded, motion carried.

Announcements/Administrative

Received two NH-DES copies of complete forestry notifications: for Tax Map/Lot 407/42 and for Tax Map/Lot 411/31.

Received brochure and newsletter from Green Mountain Conservation Group.

Nelson announced that the Selectmen approved the proposed list of TCC appointments as recorded in the TCC minutes of 01/08/2018. He passed out a list of official TCC Offices and active committees. He asked all members to review the list and report at the next meeting (March 12) what offices (for full commissioners) and what committees they would be interested in serving on. The Administrative Assistant will email a copy of the current conservation easement annual monitoring assignments so that those members without any assignments can decide if there is/are any easement(s) they would be interested in monitoring.

Treasurer's Report/Finance –

John was still outside on a conference call so Nelson reported that the Town of Tamworth received \$6760 in LUCT revenue during 2017. That amount has been deposited in the Conservation Fund, which brings the total up to a little over \$77,000. The exact figure should be on next month's statement. There have been no 2018 TCC expenditures to date.

Planning Board – Eric reported that the board is currently working on a revision of the subdivision application. They will be reviewing the last (2008) Master Plan, particularly to look at the goals listed in the Implementation section.

Selectmen – Steve Gray reported that the budget is still taking up much of the Selectmen's time. He discussed the Budget Committee's recommendation that funds for the TCC summer camp scholarships should be taken from the Conservation Fund. The article in the warrant will have the scholarships included in the operating budget but it might be challenged on the floor. Nelson will be ready to discuss it if it comes up at annual town meeting.

Land Conservation

Community School – Nelson had to supply a different conservation value number for the proposed easement. The School is fine with it but the bank needs to re-review it.

Map/Lot 405/13 – On Locke Falls Road, the family would like to protect the land by donating an easement to either LRCT or the Town of Tamworth. But first they want to form a trust. They

will be talking to an attorney soon. David Little suggested they might want to form an LLC instead of a trust. Nelson will pass that on to the landowner.

Wallace Land (Spaulding Trust) – Nelson reported that Rob Wallace is working with Natural Resources Conservation Service to protect a number of parcels in the Hoag Brook-Brown Hill-Mill Brook area. The project has been accepted by NRCS and will be finalized later in the year, after completing some land surveying.

Public Education and Outreach –

Sponsorship/Scholarships – Rich has reserved a spot at Barry Camp for one boy recommended by Donna Ulitz. He and Dexter will work out what sort of arrangements Tin Mountain can make for sending one or two students to a Tin Mountain program without going over the TCC budget, provided Donna or someone else can produce two more candidates.

Wetlands – Received an expedited state wetlands application for a proposed driveway crossing a wetland on Tax Map/Lot 411/05. Concerns raised: as proposed, the driveway doesn't cross the wetland so that a minimum area would be impacted; there won't be any way to inspect the area until the snow is gone; the lot appears to be landlocked and no R.O.W. shown so it's unclear exactly what the constraints there would be for crossing the abutter's land, which may limit the options of the applicant; this isn't the best time of year to do earth work so it's unclear why the application should be expedited. It is also unclear how or if the 20 foot property line buffer affects the design. Following David Little's suggestion, Nelson will contact DES and discuss TCC's concerns before TCC makes the decision of whether or not to exercise the right to put a hold on the DES decision.

Adjourn – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Batch moved, Stephanie seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:04pm.

Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.