

TAMWORTH CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes

January 12, 2009

Minutes reviewed and approved on 2/9/09.

Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 7:08 PM by Chair Ned Beecher.
- In attendance were Bill Batchelder, Ned Beecher, Kathy Bunker (Alternate), David Cluff (Planning Board Representative), Willie Farnum (Select Board Representative), David Haskell, Margaret Reiser.
- Kathy Bunker acted as alternate to Scott Aspinall.

Approval of Minutes

Bill Batchelder moved, and Kathy Bunker seconded, to accept the minutes of December 8, 2008 as presented. The motion passed, 3-0, with one abstention.

TCC Report for Town Warrant

Bill Batchelder gave Commission members an opportunity to review a draft report on the activities of the Commission during 2008.

Warrant Articles

The Outreach and Education Committee agreed to take on the task of educating the public regarding the two warrant articles submitted by the TCC to be considered at town meeting. An article will be submitted to the Tamworth Civic News (and possibly other papers) in February.

Administrative

Bill Batchelder moved, and Margaret Reiser seconded, to authorize the expenditure of up to \$100 for the purchase of 250 TCC envelopes. The motion passed with no objections.

Select Board Representative

- Willie Farnum reported that the deadline for submissions to the town report is the 29th of January, 2009.
- The energy committee needs another representative.
- As discussed at a previous meeting, the TCC considered training one or more volunteers to monitor the closed town landfill. The use of volunteer monitors would save the town money. Members will consider this.

Planning Board

- Dave Cluff reported that the Planning Board “stamped Mylar” for Tom Cleveland’s subdivision.
- The Ossipee Valley Snowmobile Club has made a Special Use Permit Application under the Tamworth Wetlands Ordinance (see wetlands matters, below).
- On the 14th at 7:30 an expert will be speaking on the topic of a gravel pits and what is required for compliance with regulations.
- Dom Bergen and Tom Cleveland were appointed as Planning Board Representatives to the Ordinance Review Committee.
- Capital Improvement Plan Committee is seeking members.

Ad-hoc Land Trust Standards Committee

This committee met just prior to this meeting (see below) and is in the process of creating a document that states how the TCC’s land conservation program is meeting, or striving to meet, the Land Trust Standards.

Energy Committee

- Willie Farnum reported that the committee is awaiting information from PSNH regarding street lights.
- Kathy Bunker suggested that her husband may be interested in becoming a member of this committee.

Managed Lands and Trails Committee

- Dave Haskell reported that June 6th will be National Trails Day. A local trail clearing day will also be held on May 2nd. See details at www.americanhiking.org. The TCC's trails day is registered there.
- A map of the Hackett Hill Wildlife Management Area was shown. Mapping a future trail connecting the Rhodes easement with the Hackett Hill and BearCamp River Trails was suggested. It will need to be confirmed that Fish and Game approves of the maintenance of the existing section of the Bearcamp River trail from the Community School area to the S. Tamworth bridge. Dave Haskell will find out who is responsible for managing the Bearcamp River Trail and check with them.
- Dave Haskell will check with Charlie Townsend to see if new language is needed on a sign for the Remick Natural Area recognizing the associated state funding program.

Ordinance Review Committee

- The committee's goal is to make sure that all of the town's ordinances are legally adopted, that they are readily available, that any required applications are available, that it be clear who is in charge of permitting and enforcement, and to facilitate communication between boards and commissions.
- Bryan Berlind will be updating the organization chart currently displayed behind the door of the town offices meeting room.
- The committee has also reviewed different types of control sheets.

Wetlands Matters

Great Hill Reservation Trust / Ossipee Valley Snobile Club Update

- A copy of a letter from the Select Board indicating that a violation of the Tamworth Wetlands Ordinance was received.
- Ned Beecher sent a letter to the Great Hill Reservation Trust regarding the breach of the conservation easement.
- The Ossipee Valley Snowmobile Club has submitted a Special Use Permit Application (SUP) under the Tamworth Wetlands Ordinance that the Planning Board will review and have TCC review.
- The landowner must apply to the state for a Full Dredge and Fill Permit as well, since work will be done within 100 feet of a Prime Wetland. This application will come to the town and then be sent to the state. It will provide more information that will be useful regarding the Special Use Permit.
- The Planning Board has not yet accepted the SUP as complete, therefore the TCC will make no recommendation at this time.

McConarty Easment

- Bryan Berlind sent a letter to the Department of Environmental Services.
- It was determined that since the landowner was required by the state to complete work in only four of the five areas applied for, it was correct to state that all the required work had been done. Their permit allows them to do work in that fifth area up until the permit expires in 2012.
- The landowner must submit a report regarding stabilization & revegetation of the site after one growing season, by Dec. 1 of this year.

Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act

- The consensus was that while the Town Clerk should be able provide information about the Shoreland Protection Act to people requesting local permits, no signed statement of intent to comply will be requested.
- Ned Beecher will check on what information the Town Clerk and the Department of Environmental Services have available.

Wellhead Protection

- Kathy Bunker will gather information about wellhead protection from DES and other sources. There was discussion regarding whether or not this should be something the TCC works on this year.

Land Trust Standards and Practices

- A warrant article to establish a Capital Reserve Fund for conservation easement monitoring and enforcement was considered.
- Alternatively, Dave Haskell moved, and Kathy Bunker seconded, to establish a restricted fund within the Conservation Fund for easement stewardship and enforcement and to place \$5,000 in that fund. The motion passed, 4-0.
- Ned Beecher will write a letter to the Select Board notifying them of the action and asking them to approve the acceptance of donations into that fund.

Timber Harvest

The NH Department of Resources and Economic Development gave notification of plans for timber harvest at White Lake State Park. Bidding will happen in 2009.

Green Mountain Conservation Group

An annual meeting will be held on January 25th from 4-7 pm.

Adjournment

Dave Haskell moved, and Bill Batchelder seconded to adjourn at 9:02 PM. The motion passed, 4-0.

Minutes of the Ad-Hoc Land Trust Standards Committee of the Tamworth Conservation Commission Monday, January 12, 2009, 6:15 – 7:00 pm

Present: Ned Beecher, David Little, John Mersfelder, Margaret Rieser

Committee members had drafted write-ups regarding various Land Trust Standards. Ned had compiled these into one document and drafted an introduction. This document was reviewed. David Little offered to revise the document into an outline form that mostly includes references to documents in the TCC Handbook. He will pull out individual standards so they can be put in the Handbook. Ned will provide him with references for Standards 1 – 4.

Adjournment: All agreed at 7:00 pm