

MINUTES

Tamworth Conservation Commission

Ad-hoc Committee on Land Conservation: Gilman Forest Project

September 2, 2009

Draft minutes to be reviewed at a subsequent meeting.

Present: Ned Beecher, David Little, John Mersfelder, Chele Miller, Nelson O'Bryan, Katy Thompson

Meeting began about 9:20 am.

Minutes: The minutes of the last two meetings – August 14 and August 24 – were reviewed and approved, as presented.

Fundraising Tracking Sign: It was agreed that, rather than build something permanent and fancy at this time, we will create an 11 x 17 poster to put in a few places, such as the glass case on the front of the Town Office.

Update on Progress: Nelson reported that, to date, \$41,420 has been collected by the TCC and the Society, for this project (above and beyond TCC and Society contributions). Both of the matches that served as challenges announced August 23rd were met, and all the match money has been collected from Committee members. The result is that \$49,845 remains to be raised to meet the \$139K+ budget for the project. Nelson will send a list of all contributors to Committee members, so we do not contact donors a second time.

Thank-you/Acknowledgment process: This was reviewed. Nelson and Chele have a system set up to share information with each other. It was agreed that there was no need for any other Committee members to know details of who gave what. Chele was given TCC letterhead and envelopes for sending thank-yous. Language has been worked out with the Society, and this was refined by the Committee.

WOW Name: Jack Waldron had suggested this broader effort be called "Whites-to-Ossipees Wildlife Connectivity;" the Committee agreed and this final change has been made to the 4-page brochure.

Plans for Forest Society Annual Meeting Sept. 12th: Susanne (at Society) had clarified the role of the Committee members at the meeting: brochures can be on registration table, Jane Difley will mention partnership and project in her opening remarks, can talk with people one-on-one, and John will approach Dan Sundquist to see if he can mention partnership with TCC in his presentation.

Fundraising strategies: Next steps in fundraising and whom to contact were discussed; some Committee members were assigned particular contacts to continue to pursue. It was noted that the Buther/Behr property land protection project fundraising still has about \$13,000 to go.

Press coverage: It was noted that the Carroll County Independent had front-page coverage, with color photo, prior to the August 23rd kick-off event. The Mountain Ear had a nice article the week after the event. Ned will send a thank you to each of them.

Neighborhood get-togethers: Ned will follow up with Cleveland Hill folks; David will work on an event on Great Hill Road.