

Tamworth Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes – June 10, 2019

Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting

Call to Order – Nelson O'Bryan called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm. Commissioners present were Nelson O'Bryan, Dexter Harding, William Batchelder, Chele Miller, Charlie Townsend and Stephanie Doyle. Commissioners absent: John Watkins. Alternates present: Lucy Gatchell and Kit Morgan. Nelson assigned Lucy to fill the vacant seat.

Approval of Minutes for 05/13/2019 – Batch moved to accept minutes as written. Stephanie seconded, motion carried.

Administrative/Announcements – Kit announced that he has been promoted to Vice-Chair of the Green Mountain Conservation Group, which means that his role as Tamworth Representative is now open. Anyone interested in being nominated for GMCG Tamworth Representative can contact Kit or anyone on the GMCG Board.

Financial

Tamworth has a new reimbursement policy. The Selectmen's Office requires documentation to accompany any request. It's best to speak with the Selectmen's Office prior to making any expenditures that would require reimbursement. The preference is to have the expenditure paid with the town credit card.

Charlie moved to authorize a payment of \$700 to Tin Mountain Conservation Center to be applied as scholarships for Tamworth residents attending Tin Mountain Conservation Center's Tamworth Trailblazers summer camp. Lucy seconded. Motion carried with Dexter and Lucy abstaining. The money should come from the Conservation Fund because that's where the Tamworth Foundation grant was deposited.

Charlie moved to authorize payment of \$900 to Green Mountain Conservation Group to cover costs of water monitoring in Tamworth. Stephanie seconded, motion carried.

Charlie moved to authorize a transfer of \$283 from the Conservation Fund to the Planning Board for covering the application cost of the Planning Board review of the proposed boundary line adjustment between the Jackman Pond Wildlife Area and The Community School. The Planning Board review is scheduled for June 26. Dexter seconded, motion carried.

Charlie reported that, including the expenditures voted on above, TCC currently has \$4933.62 remaining of the 2019 TCC budget.

Planning Board – Nelson announced that the Planning Board work session on Wednesday, June 12 will be discussing the Master Plan and TCC's role in the Vision and Implementation sections of the plan. Nelson will attend. Anyone else interested is invited to attend.

Land Conservation

Alt Easements – Chris Alt is still looking to merge and simplify his easements. He is trying to get in touch with the new contact person at the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests.

Community School Land Purchase – The Planning Board review is scheduled for June 26.

Payne – Grace Payne has marked out the area she would like to include in her donated easement. She is asking for TCC to cover the costs of surveying. Chele moved to authorize covering the costs of surveyor services for the proposed Payne easement. Dexter seconded, motion carried.

Spaulding Family Trust easement – The Natural Resources Conservation Service (US Department of Agriculture) has accepted a 435.7 acre conservation easement on Wallace/Spaulding land. It includes most of Hoag Brook and both sides of Mill Brook between Pease Hill Road and Great Hill Road.

Cook Property, Depot Road – The owners of the land for sale have suggested that whoever buys the property might be interested in conserving the land along the Bearcamp River.

Page Hill Trail – The Franchis have purchased Tax Map/Lot 410/139, the property that has the public trail easement on Page Hill Road. They are now aware of the easement and are fine with it.

Bearcamp Valley Farm – Tax Map/Lot 420/7, the lot containing the old cape house formerly occupied by Carl and Elva Bickford and is one of the two lots containing the Bearcamp Valley Farm easement, is on the market.

Public Education and Outreach

Summer Camp Committee – One of the twelve campers signed up for Tamworth Trailblazers summer camp has backed out, so there is an opening for another camper. The camp is on the week of July 22. Tin Mountain Conservation Center will submit an invoice of \$500 to cover transportation costs.

SPARCnet – The three spring salamander censuses have been completed. 51 captures were made. Some of the salamanders were weighed and measured for length. All salamanders were returned to the point of capture in good health. The next SPARCnet census will be in September but the plots are available for other educational purposes during the summer. There are plans to add a few more coverboards to study migration and to find more lead-back morphotypes.

Family Day – Lucy and Dexter have been working on cardboard salamander banners for the parade. There will be a painting party July 1, after the TCC meeting at 2:00 pm. Chris Conrod will supply sticks for holding up the banners.

Wetlands

Pine Tree Power Water Discharge – Kit reported Green Mountain Conservation Group has asked to be kept informed about future plans for cooling water discharges.

Managed Lands & Trails – Stephanie suggested that Hikin' Heron forms be placed in the map boxes at the TCC trailheads. Discussed soliciting adopters for TCC trails.

Other Business – Nelson will not be available for the regularly scheduled TCC meeting on July 8. Agreed to reschedule the meeting for July 1, 2:00 pm at the Town Offices.

Adjourn – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Batch moved, Chele seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm.

Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.