

**Tamworth Conservation Commission**  
Draft Minutes – September 10, 2018  
*Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting*

**Call to Order** – Nelson O'Bryan called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Commissioners present were Nelson O'Bryan, William Batchelder and John Watkins. Commissioners absent: Charlie Townsend, Stephanie Doyle and Chele Miller. Alternates present: Kit Morgan, Dexter Harding, Eric Dube and Lucy Gatchell. Nelson assigned all four Alternates to fill the empty seats.

Also present: Steve Gray, Selectman; Christopher Alt.

**Approval of Minutes for 08/13/2018** – Kit moved to accept minutes with the addition of Betsy Loughran listed as an attendee. Lucy seconded, motion carried. Batch and Dexter abstained.

**Alt Family Easements** – Chris Alt presented a proposal to add Tax Map 414, Lot 58 to the conservation easement on Alt #8 (Dow Southwest 2099/300 Map 414 Lot 59 6.15 acres (2002)). He added that he and Edward were thinking of merging the Dow lots just to make things simpler. The commission discussed options for doing that and directed Chris to the Planning Board for more specific information. The Commission agreed that it would review the Alt #8 easement to see if it wanted to suggest any revisions and then discuss the proposal with the Selectmen, because they would have to vote on the proposal when it is ready.

**Administrative/Announcements**

Nelson reported that Karl Behr wants to discuss a walking trail through his property in the Village but Nelson hasn't been able to hook up with Karl yet.

Received two NH-DES forestry notifications: Tax Maps/Lots 412/30 and 411/24&25.

**Treasurer's Report/Finance**

John reported no new expenditures and no change in the monthly statement.

2019 Budget Proposal – Darlene would like to have next year's budget proposal ASAP. Nelson suggested no change from this year's budget but that he and John would work to consolidate the line items so that the Budget would be less cumbersome. Eric moved to propose that the same as the 2018 budget (\$7890) be submitted for the 2019 budget. Batch seconded, motion carried.

Nelson asked that the commission approve \$900 for the Green Mountain Conservation Group water quality monitoring so that it can be paid as soon as the bill is received. Eric moved, Lucy seconded, motion carried with an abstention by Kit.

**Planning Board** – Eric reported nothing of interest to TCC during the last Planning Board meeting.

**Board of Selectmen** – Steve Gray remarked how nice the new fire tower panorama maps looked. He asked about the ethics of using a town timber inspector who is also associated with an organization or agency that has a legal interest in the property. Better to play it safe if anyone might construe an impropriety.

**Land Conservation**

Jackman Pond Parcel – Nelson reported that, under the advisement of Paul King, he is submitting an application to the Planning Board for a boundary line adjustment for including the Community School parcel with the Jackman Pond Wildlife Area. This is basically just to see if the Planning Board will consider the application without a full survey of the town property. It will cost \$285 for abutter notification. Kip moved to authorize payment of \$285. Lucy seconded, motion carried. Money will be transferred from the Conservation Fund to the Planning Board.

Nelson reported that the Conservation Land Review Committee met to review progress on the Whites to Ossipees wildlife initiative. There's been a lot of progress and Wallace (Spaulding Trust) and Bemis properties are recent additions. Discussed climate change resiliency maps developed by The Nature Conservancy and locally refined by Lakes Region Conservation Trust.

### **Public Education and Outreach**

Fire Tower – Lucy reported that she has finished installing the new panorama panels in the fire tower. There is some maintenance needed on the steps. She asked about getting some stuff put on the kiosk at the foot of the fire tower road. A few suggestions were made, including good directions to the tower because the trail signs tend to disappear on a regular basis. She will work on filling up the kiosk.

SPARCnet – Lucy and the Administrative Assistant have been looking into developing a citizen science program for TCC. The Salamander Population and Adaptation Collaboration Network is a group of herpetologists throughout the eastern United States that collaborate on studying salamanders response to climate change. They have a citizen science education component. It involves setting up one or more cover board plots and an array of temperature data loggers, and doing a census on the cover board plot(s) six times per year. The data is useful to the researchers and the salamander surveys are a good educational activity for school groups and the general public. Eric offered to supply the lumber for the cover boards and Nelson offered to cover the cost of the data loggers. So, no cost to the town. Lucy and the Administrative assistant will scout out a good area for setting up two plots; first choice is on the Earl Remick Natural Area.

Summer Camp – The committee on investigating the possibility of having a summer program similar to The Five Days of Sandwich has formed and has begun inventorying what programs are already in town.

Susan Morse – Chele reported that Sue Morse would be available for doing a presentation in February, 2019, either the weekend of President's Day or the following weekend. Agreed to ask Chele to choose the date; either is good. This program will likely be co-sponsored with Wonalancet Out Door Club so the cost should be reasonable.

**Managed Lands and Trails** – Nelson reported that Mark Streeter has mowed the Bearcamp Field. Nelson asked for authorization to pay Mark's bill when received. He charged \$100 last time but it would be good to authorize more in case the price has gone up. John moved to authorize paying up to \$200 for mowing the Bearcamp Field. Batch seconded, motion carried.

**Other Business** – Nelson will not be available for the October 8 meeting. It was suggested to move the meeting to October 15. No one protested so it was agreed to move the October TCC meeting to Monday, October 15, 2018.

**Adjourn** – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Eric moved, Stephanie seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

*Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.*