

## **Tamworth Conservation Commission**

Draft Minutes – January 11, 2016

*Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting*

**Call to Order** – Nelson O'Bryan called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Commissioners present were Nelson O'Bryan, William Batchelder, Chele Miller, Rich Gerard and Shannon Maes. Commissioners absent: Bob Seston and Ned Beecher. Alternates present: Eric Dube and John Watkins. Nelson appointed Eric and John to fill the vacant seats.

**Approval of Minutes for 12/14/2015** – Corrections: Sam Martin was not present; on BVF part of Easement Monitoring, it was the front pins (not the rear pins) of the excluded area that the landowner had pulled out. Moved by Batch to accept the minutes as corrected. Eric seconded, motion carried.

**Announcements** – Received copy of NH-DES wetlands letter to Windover Trust (Tax Map/Lot 203/14) requesting more information and a redesign of the proposed farm pond enlargement.

### **Treasurer's Report/Financial**

Nelson reported that the total of TCC expenditures for 2015 was \$10,462, 87.3% of the budget. Ned has switched web hosts; total cost is \$216. TCC authorized \$200 at the December meeting. Chele moved to authorize reimbursing Ned \$216 for costs in changing web hosts. Batch seconded, motion carried.

**Planning Board** – Eric reported that the Planning Board has been working with the Selectmen and the town webmaster to get the latest, proper forms on line for public download. One boundary line adjustment on Eldridge Lane has been approved. The PB is finishing up on minor revisions to the floodplain ordinance.

### **Conservation Easements**

Kennett Osgood Road Parcel – Nelson reported that the appraisal has been completed but he doesn't know if SPNHF has presented it to the Kennetts yet, so he will hold off making it public until he is sure all participating parties have seen it.

**Public Education and Outreach** – 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration: Progress reports for the projects agreed upon at the December meeting:

Photo Contest – Nelson presented a draft plan for seasonal categories and prizes awarded. Discussed judging methods. Nelson will tweak the plan a bit and present it to Melanie Streeter.

Tree Cookie – Chele is looking into obtaining a 400 year old hemlock cookie that WODC prepared 15 – 20 years ago.

250 Hikin' Herons – Shannon will take the numerous ideas and suggestions and come up with something that works, whether the count will be individuals, legs, toes... whatever. There will be special patches!

Continuation of Betty Steele's History – John Mersfelder declined the offer.

### **Easement Monitoring**

Chele distributed recommendations from Steve Walker, NH-OEP, for electronic filing of monitoring documents. Discussed possibility of submitting reports on line. Ned has said that there is a form function offered by the new web host but it needs to be investigated to see if it can be adapted for TCC use. Also discussed recording correspondence with the landowner and the need to at least offer the landowner a copy of each inspection report.

## **Managed Lands and Trails**

Wood Duck Boxes – Harold Cook has generously donated five wood duck boxes to TCC. Agreed that Jackman Pond and Waterfowl Haven would be good places to put them up. Nelson will scout out locations to set them up. Chele, Rich, Shannon and Chris Conrod have volunteered to help install the wood duck boxes.

Tamworth Outing Club Kiosks – TCC is now the proprietor of the old TOC kiosk at the corner of Great Hill and Hemenway Roads. What should be on it? Map, brochures. General consensus that better directions to the tower are needed because people often turn at the first left, which brings them back to Hemenway Road. Trail signs don't seem to last long there.

**Other Business** – Education Scholarship. It is funded for this year. Last year there were no takers. Recruiting should start early; right away. It should be advertised to individuals or other groups because the school didn't produce any candidates last year.

**Adjourn** – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Eric moved, Rich seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

*Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.*