

Tamworth Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes – September 8, 2014

Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting

Call to Order – Nelson called meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Commissioners present were Nelson O'Bryan, Chele Miller, Shannon Maes, Rich Gerard, and William Batchelder. Commissioners absent: Ned Beecher and Bob Seston. Alternates present: John Watkins. Nelson appointed John to sit in one of the vacant seats.

Also present: Sam Martin.

Approval of Minutes for 08/11/2014 – Rich moved to accept minutes with the correction in spelling of Richard Sager's name. John seconded, motion carried.

Administrative –

Announcements – Nelson reminded members of the upcoming NHACC annual meeting on November 1, in Laconia. Discussed the opportunity for one local student to attend free of charge. Shannon will look into any possible Kennett candidates; Chele will check at the Brett School.

Treasurer's Report/Financial – The monthly statement is not available for review. Bob looked into the Sager and Haskell bill of \$332 that the TCC approved for payment in February. Turns out it was mistakenly charged to the ZBA. This will be corrected. One bill on hand: \$515.50 for survey work done by Hambrook Surveyors on the Bearcamp Valley Farm. Chele moved to pay the bill out of the Conservation Fund. Batch seconded, motion carried.

Conservation Lands Review Committee

Alt Easement Consolidation – Still awaiting SPNHF decision concerning the Alt proposal to consolidate conservation easements and reassign Grantee status to TCC. Chris Alt told Nelson that he would talk with TCC after his daughter's wedding.

H. Thompson Easement – The survey has been done; map has not been received yet. R. Sager has reviewed and approved the easement. Bill received for survey costs of \$262.50. Shannon moved to pay the bill out of the operating fund. Rich seconded, motion carried.

Bearcamp Valley Farm – Last week Ned, Chele and Nelson helped Chip and Susan Bryant Kimball remove trash from land that was shown to be their property by the survey of Bearcamp Valley Farm. This was not part of any legal requirement but just a neighborly thing to do. Bob Boyd, state forest ranger (now retired) inspected the logging job on BVF and found no violations. Rich has been asked to look at the work and give his opinion. He will do this shortly.

Public Education and Outreach

Hikin' Heron Patches – There have been five or six new applications from hikers who have completed the Hikin' Heron Challenge. Chele will send out patches and the Administrative Assistant will add the names to the list on the web site.

Nature/Conservation Camp/Workshop Scholarships – Rich asked if this was something TCC might consider. In the past TCC sponsored children at the local Tin Mountain nature camps. Rich (and/or others) will have specific examples that could be considered at the next meeting.

Easement Monitoring – Chele has the monitors all set for fall inspections with possibly a couple of extra people willing to help out. Chele was impressed with the monitoring tools used by Steve Walker, NH-OEP. some of Steve's tools/procedures could be incorporated into TCC's monitoring program. She and the Administrative Assistant will review this in the fall.

Managed Lands and Trails

Mowing Fields -- John Roberts has agreed to do Waterfowl Haven. Mark Streeter might do the Bearcamp Field.

Collaboration between Agencies/Organizations – John discussed the advantages of consolidating adjacent land protection and management projects, thereby making grant proposals more competitive.

Page Hill View Clearing – TCC has received suggestions that the view on Page Hill should be improved/restored. Rich, Chele, Nelson and Chris Conrod will do an inspection tour in the near future.

Other Business – Discussion of the view cut done on the shore of Chocorua Lake. To date, there has been no formal report or decision issued by NH-DES.

Adjourn – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Chele moved, Batch seconded, motion carried 8:21 pm.

Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.