

## **Tamworth Conservation Commission**

Draft Minutes – October 13, 2014

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

**Call to Order** – Nelson called meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Commissioners present were Nelson O'Bryan, Chele Miller, Shannon Maes, Rich Gerard, Ned Beecher and Bob Seston. Commissioners absent: William Batchelder. Alternates present: Eric Dube. Nelson appointed Eric to sit in the vacant seat.

Also present: John Mersfelder and Sam Martin.

**Approval of Minutes for 09/08/2014** – Corrections: Under H. Thompson Easement, “survey costs” should read “legal costs”; under report of the treasurer, the correct amount of the bill for survey work by Hambrook is \$517.50. Chele moved to accept minutes as corrected. Rich seconded, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report/Financial** – TCC has spent about \$4311, including two bills yet to be paid: \$115 for mowing by Mark Streeter and \$270 for NHACC membership dues. Ned moved to authorize payment of those two bills; Eric seconded; motion carried. The conservation fund currently has a balance of approximately \$61,600, of which about \$11,100 is in the stewardship fund line. Total expenses paid from the operating budget and conservation fund for recent land protection projects: about \$1,500 for Floyd and about \$16,500 for Gilman West.

**Proposed Budget for 2015** – After deliberation, Bob moved to propose the following 2015 TCC budget to the Selectmen:

Clerical	2485
Fica	154
Medicare	36
Water Qual. Monitoring	900
Easement Monitoring	100
Website	160
Maintenance/Trails	100
Printing/Maps, Flyers	200
Dues, Subs., Meetings	400
Office Supplies	50
Postage	50
Signs & Boxes	100
Professional Fees	1300
Tower Expenses	5500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,535</b>

Eric seconded. It was noted that the increase over the 2014 budget is primarily a result of one-time expenses for view clearing, painting and welding for the fire tower. Motion carried.

**Note:** Proposed budget was later modified to \$12,035. See below, under “Public Education and Outreach”.

### **Conservation Lands Review Committee**

**Alt Easement Consolidation** – Still waiting to hear from Chris Alt.

**H. Thompson Easement** – The revised easement is being reviewed by the grantor's attorney. Otherwise, all parties are ready for closing.

**Bearcamp Valley Farm** – The logger removed the wood and the temporary stream crossings per request of the landowner. It appears that all parties are satisfied with the results.

**Land Protection Celebration** – CLRC has tentatively scheduled January 17, 2015 for a public event to celebrate the recent successful land protection projects. SPNHF is interested in participating. LRCT will be invited. The committee welcomes any ideas and help in planning, promoting and staffing the event.

### **Public Education and Outreach**

**NHACC Annual Meeting** – Rich intends to attend; Ned hopes to go if it fits his schedule. Chele and Shannon are still looking for a local student to accept NHACC's offer to attend for free.

**Co-sponsored Event with Cook Library** – Discussed possible speakers to invite. Shannon/Chele will contact Will Abbott and/or Steve Whitman.

**Nature/Conservation Camp/Workshop Scholarships** – Rich presented a sample schedule of Tin Mountain events and prices. Discussed making scholarships available for one “younger” child and one “older” student. Ned moved that TCC create a new Scholarship line item, tentatively called “Education and Outreach”, to the budget and to propose funding for 2015 in the amount of \$500. Shannon seconded; motion carried.

Note: This motion results in a total 2015 proposed budget of \$12,035.

### **Managed Lands and Trails**

**Page Hill View Clearing** – A site inspection by TCC members determined that the view at the ledge on Page Hill could be improved with some tree cutting. The amount of work involved could be done by volunteers. Nelson has contacted the landowner and is awaiting a response.

**Easement Monitoring** – Chele is in the process of distributing the green monitoring folders to the monitors. She has revised the monitoring form based on a sample form provided by Steve Walker, NH-OEP. Ned will (has, as of Oct 20) post a down-loadable file of the form on the TCC website.

**Adjourn** – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Eric moved, Rich seconded, motion carried 8:30 pm.

*Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.*

*Revised 10/25/2014 with corrections by Robert Seston.*