

Tamworth Conservation Commission
Draft Minutes for Public Hearing – August 29, 2012
Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting

Call to Order – Ned called meeting to order at 5:01 pm. Commissioners present were Ned Beecher (Chair), Nelson O'Bryan, Rich Gerard, Chele Miller, William Batchelder, and Margaret Rieser. Bob Seston was absent.

Also present: David Little, Conservation Lands Review Committee member.

Purpose of Hearing – Ned announced that the purpose of this public hearing is to allow public comment concerning the TCC proposal to acquire a conservation easement on the property known as the Eastern Field, part of the Bearcamp Valley Farm; specifically, Tax Map 420, Lot 14. The public hearing is required by State statute when town funds are to be expended toward the purchase of a legal interest in real estate property. Ned reported that public notice of the hearing was published in the August 18th edition of the Conway Daily Sun and posted at the Tamworth Post Office, the Other Store and the Tamworth Town Office.

Public Comment – David Little made the general comment: “Good job.” Chele reported that, to date, \$39,905 have been raised by private donation; it is expected that the total funds raised from private donors will meet or exceed the \$40,000 easement cost. Discussion ensued concerning the \$10,000 of Conservation Fund money authorized by vote of the Conservation Commission to be used toward the purchase price if needed. It was suggested that some or all of this money could be transferred to the dedicated Stewardship Fund for monitoring and enforcement of conservation easements. The adequacy of the current funding level of the Stewardship Fund was discussed. It was agreed to have further discussion at the next TCC meeting.

There being no other public comments, Ned closed the public comment period at 5:15 pm.

Next Steps – Ned reported that the Selectmen had signed the easement at their meeting of August 23rd. Closing is scheduled for Friday, August 31, 10:00 am at the town office. Ned and Bob Floyd will sign the easement, Anne Abear will notarize, Theresa Swanick will attend the closing and record the easement at Carroll County Registry of Deeds. The only transaction costs will be an invoice from Theresa Swanick and the recording fee at the Registry of Deeds.

Adjourn – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Batch moved, Chele seconded, motion carried 5:20 pm.

Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.