

Tamworth Conservation Commission
Draft Minutes – April 11, 2022, Tamworth Town Office
Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting

Call to Order – Nelson O'Bryan called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. Commissioners present were Nelson O'Bryan, Kit Morgan (on Zoom), Dylan Alden, Charlie Townsend, Jeremy Phillips and Eileen Shelly. Commissioners absent: None. Alternates present: Lucy Gatchell and Chele Miller. Alternates absent: Ned Beecher and Stephanie Doyle. Nelson appointed Chele to fill the empty seat.

Also present: Randall Dearborn, Planning Board; Kelly Goodson, Selectboard.

Approval of Minutes for 03/14/2022 – Chele moved to accept the minutes as written. Jeremy seconded, motion carried.

Administrative and Announcements

Eileen and Kit attended the Saving Special Places conference. Two notable workshops they attended were the Land Trust Bird Conservation Initiative and Getting to Know Wildlife Corridors. Both programs offer assistance and grant funding. Agreed to investigate further to see if these programs could be incorporated into the work of TCC.

Financial – There is no monthly statement available. Charlie moved to authorize reimbursement of \$40 each to Kit and Eileen to cover the Saving Special Places registration costs. Jeremy seconded, motion carried.

Planning Board – Randall reported that there are two subdivision applications under review: King (Locke Road) and Hertel (Bryant Mill Road).

Selectboard – Kelly inquired about the process of acquiring conservation easements. Nelson gave a brief summary and he will write up a more detailed description.

Easement Monitoring – Chele reminded all that it is not too early to start planning easement inspections. Dylan will be meeting with Eric Dube on Saturday to get introduced to the Alt-West easements.

Conservation Easements/Land Protection

Perkins Easement – Kit reported that there have been no new developments that he was aware of. It was noted that the State Council on Resources and Development will not be meeting again until May.

Public Education and Outreach

Family Day, July 4 – Looking for ideas to participate, possibly in the parade. Wildlife connectivity was suggested as a theme. Nelson asked the commissioners to present any specific ideas at the next meeting.

Chronolog – Kit presented a citizen science-crowd sourced program for monitoring a location for environmental change (<https://www.chronolog.io>). Agreed to look into the possibility of setting up a Chronolog station somewhere on public land in Tamworth.

SPARCnet Spring Salamander Census – The census will be held at Earle Remick Natural area, 9:30 AM, on the following dates: Open to all on April 30 and May 21; Brett School students on May 10.

Managed Lands and Trails

Betty Steele Loop Relocation – The first work day for the relocation will be April 23 at 4:00 PM.

Fire Tower Windows – The windows are in storage and need to be moved. There is no intention to reinstall them. Jeremy will check them out. It might be possible to offer them to someone who could repurpose them.

Fire Tower Panorama – The panels are getting faded and worn. Nelson will take new photos. TCC will look into options for durable panels.

Other Business – Kelly suggested getting indigenous people involved in TCC; she will connect with them. Jeremy reported that the Groundwater Protection Committee is comparing the state template with the proposed 2011 ordinance and the Canaan ordinance. The proposed gas station in Effingham has gone to third party independent review.

Adjourn – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Jeremy moved, Dylan seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.