

MINUTES

Conservation Lands Review Committee Of the Tamworth Conservation Commission May 9, 2014

Present: Ned Beecher, John Mersfelder, Chele Miller, Bob Seston. Also: Nelson O'Bryan.

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

4. Expanding Gilman Forest Project with SPNHF

- On April 30, Nelson met Tom Howe and gave him the check from the Town for all of the funds raised and paid to the Town for this project to date. This means there will be one more check from the Town in the next month or so: the second \$7500 from the Tamworth Foundation, plus any later contributions to the Town. Nelson learned from Tom that the closing for the Reich property is now planned for June. Tom seemed optimistic about the project and pleased with how it has gone.
- The Committee members noted that it is remarkable what has been accomplished in this project, given the times and the other distractions we've had. The original Gilman project was led more by the Town. This time, the Forest Society was leading more, and it was a different process. But it ended up being successful enough.
- We feel we have done our fair part on this. We have tapped the resources we can.
- Ned will continue to follow up with Forest Society and copy the Committee, as needed.

2. Plans for Future CLRC Work and Discussions:

The group felt it is now a good time to reflect on the easements the Town holds, our responsibilities, and where things stand. Chele is the new easement monitoring coordinator and is working on organizing and updating the database of easements. Useful next steps might include updating the goals and policies for land conservation going forward, including reviewing, and updating if needed, the Land Trust Standards adopted by the TCC a few years ago. Also, we should update communications with other organizations, to bring them up to speed on what we've done and learn where they are and coordinate with them going forward.

3. BVF Southern Lots

Ned will draft a letter from the TCC to Bob Floyd to accompany the final payment that will go to him by June 2nd. We will have him sign the letter/receipt to record that he has received all the funds from the Town and to document the other steps being taken, such as the 2015 planned transfer of Eastern Field to the LRCT for ~\$20,000. Ned will coordinate with Katy Thompson on this also.

4. Minutes

- Ned noted that many CLRC meetings have gone by without reviewing and approving past minutes. He has printed out and is organizing all CLRC minutes going back several years and will put them, in order, in the TCC files. He noted that all of these minutes have already been submitted to the Town and are kept by Cassandra in an official public file and are posted online. But it is a good idea for the Committee to approve the past minutes, as a formality.

- Chele and Ned noted that all of the minutes from each meeting were distributed to Committee members after each meeting, and the Committee members read them at the time.
- Committee members were comfortable with how the minutes were kept and presented and agreed to vote to accept all past minutes that have not been approved, covering the time beginning with the original Gilman Forest project, through the Bearcamp Valley Farm projects (Beaver Brook, Western Field, Eastern Field, and the Southern Lots), and the Expanding Gilman Forest (Freeto/Reich project just finishing up now).
- John made the motion to accept these past minutes; Chele seconded. The motion carried 3 – 0.

5. Adjournment

John moved, Chele moved, all approved. There is no next meeting scheduled; it will likely not be until the fall.
