

Tamworth Conservation Commission
Minutes – January 8, 2024, Tamworth Town Office
Minutes reviewed and approved at TCC 02/12/2024 meeting

Call to Order – Nelson O'Bryan called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Commissioners present were Nelson O'Bryan, Charlie Townsend, Teresa Fournier, Kit Morgan, Dylan Alden and Eileen Shelly. Commissioners absent: Jeremy Phillips. Alternates present: Lucy Gatchell and Ned Beecher. Alternates absent: Stephanie Doyle. Also present: Richard Doucette, Select Board. Nelson appointed Ned to fill the empty seat.

Approval of Minutes for 12/11/2023 – Ned moved to accept the minutes as written. Teresa seconded, motion carried.

Administrative and Announcements

Ned thanked Nelson for forwarding the email announcing the Taking Action for Wildlife webinar series to take place in February and March. Ned and Lucy plan to attend online.

Financial – Charlie reported that a statement issued in late December showed \$624 dollars remaining in the 2023 budget. Richard Doucette reported that the Select Board is near finishing the 2024 town budget.

Recommendations for Commission Appointments – Charlie moved that TCC recommend to the Select Board the following appointments for three-year terms beginning in 2024: Commissioners – Dylan Alden, Jeremy Phillips and Ned Beecher. Alternates – Nelson O'Bryan and Kelly Goodson. Kit seconded, motion carried.

Planning Board – Nick Grant absent; no report.

Select Board – Richard Doucette reported no news other than work on the annual budget.

Easement Monitoring – All but one report have been submitted.

Public Education and Outreach – The Conservation Lands Map posted on the TCC website has been updated to show the current status, as well as the itemized lists of organizations and agencies managing conservation land in Tamworth. The Administrative Assistant will upload the updated versions.

Conservation Easements/Land Protection

Holden – The baseline documentation report has been signed by Nelson and the landowners. This completes the Holden project.

Alt Consolidation – The Alt reassignment is near completion; the attorneys are working on it.

Aspinall Lot – Nelson still hasn't connected with Don Berry at Lakes Region Conservation Trust.

Holden 2 – The Holdens have offered another lot for a conservation easement. Tax Map 206, Lot 97. The main difference from the recently acquired Holden easement is that it doesn't have prime wetland or delineated floodplain. It has good potential for development. It includes frontage on Mill Brook and abutts SPNHF conservation land. Kit moved to recommend to the Select Board that they accept an easement. Eileen seconded, motion carried.

Harold Cook – He has offered to donate a parcel (Tax Map 211 Lot 52) to the town or place an easement on it. The lot is surrounded by an oxbow and Bearcamp River, essentially an island. It would be extremely difficult/expensive to develop and it is in the floodplain. Nelson will inquire of the Select Board about accepting donations of land to the town.

Managed Lands and Trails – There are no known trail issues other than the need of trail sign replacements in the spring.

Adjourn – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Ned moved, Kit seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.