

Tamworth Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes – March 13, 2017

Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting

Call to Order – Nelson O'Bryan called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Commissioners present were Chele Miller, Rich Gerard, William Batchelder, Nelson O'Bryan, Stephanie Doyle and Ned Beecher. Commissioners absent: Bob Seston. Alternates present: Eric Dube, John Watkins and Lucy Gatchell. Nelson directed John to sit in the empty seat.

Also present: Steve Gray, Selectman; Kim Trammell.

Approval of Minutes for 01/09/17 – Moved by Batch to accept the minutes as written. Ned seconded, motion carried.

Administrative Announcements: The NH Saving Special Places Conference will be on April 8 at Prospect Mountain High School in Alton. Received notice of USPS rate change. Received copy of the latest GMCG Newsletter.

Wetlands – Received Copy of an after-the-fact DES dredge and fill application for a bridge over a stream on Tax Map/Lot 214/183. Kim Trammell, as an interested neighbor, asked what was the involvement and process for town review of a state wetlands permit. Nelson explained the basics and Kim was present to actually witness the process. After review of the application and plans by the Commission, Ned moved that TCC make the following recommendations to NH-DES: (1) The completed work cannot be adequately inspected until after the snow cover is gone. (2) TCC has concerns that the plans don't indicate what has been done to stabilize the bank and mitigate erosion. (3) TCC would like the opportunity to attend any on-site inspection by the state. Chele seconded, motion carried. Nelson will write up and send TCC's response.

Election of Officers – Batch moved to elect the following slate of officers for 2017: Chair, Nelson O'Bryan; Vice Chair, Ned Beecher; Treasurer, John Watkins; Secretary, Chele Miller. Stephanie seconded, motion carried. The Commission appreciates the six years of service Bob Seston has performed as a commissioner.

Treasurer's Report/Financial – Nelson reported that there is currently about \$70,000 in the Conservation Fund. Ned distributed a copy of an information sheet he developed for explaining the rationale for petitioning for an increase in the maximum amount of LUCT funds that shall be placed in the Conservation Fund. He will make copies and ask permission of the Moderator to distribute at Town Meeting.

Planning Board – Eric reported that the Planning Board approved a subdivision for Remick Field on Chocorua Road. This was done to facilitate repairs/improvements of the Tamworth Village septic system.

Conservation Easements – Nelson reported that the Albee-Moscato duo are considering a four lot subdivision for commercial sale. Nelson also reported that the Thompson Trust is in the process of converting to an LLC. When finished, the group may be interested in a land conservation project.

Public Outreach – Rich recommends that the student scholarship money be used to fund the tuition for two Tamworth students to attend the Fish and Game/4-H 3-day program. Ned moved to approve expenditure of \$400 for the program. Stephanie seconded, motion carried. Donna Ulitz might be able to recommend worthy recipients of the scholarship. The co-sponsored John Harris talk is scheduled for March 29 at the Cook Library.

Managed Lands and Trails – In addition to dealing with the wet section of trail at Waterfowl Haven mentioned at the January meeting, Nelson added reopening the Perkins Trail on Community School property to his trail maintenance wish list. This is not a major project; it mainly involves cleaning up debris left from the latest timber harvest.

Other Business – Lucy asked about access to the NHACC web site. Apparently they are now asking for a “number” to use the resources on the site. Nelson will check into it and make sure that NHACC has the most recent list of TCC members.

Adjourn – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Batch moved, Chele seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.