

## **Tamworth Conservation Commission**

Draft Minutes – March 12, 2018

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

**Call to Order** – Nelson O'Bryan called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Commissioners present were Nelson O'Bryan, Stephanie Doyle, Rich Gerard, John Watkins, Chele Miller and William Batchelder. Commissioners absent: Ned Beecher, who has agreed to step down to an Alternate position. Charlie Townsend, who was present and has been appointed as Ned's replacement as full commissioner, has not been sworn in yet. Alternates present: Lucy Gatchell, Eric Dube, Dexter Harding and Kit Morgan. Nelson appointed Kit to fill the empty seat.

Also present: Steve Gray, Selectman.

**Approval of Minutes for 02/12/2018** – Batch moved to accept the minutes. John seconded, motion carried.

### **Administrative**

**Committee Assignments:** Nelson reviewed the various subcommittees and all commissioners and alternates were allowed to choose committees. The list of committees and members is attached to these minutes.

**Election of Officers:** Nelson, Chair; John, Treasurer; and Chele, Secretary, all agreed to continue in their respective offices. Ned, who has been serving as Vice Chair, no longer qualifies for office because he is now an Alternate. No one was brave enough to accept the office of Vice Chair. Kit moved to elect Nelson, John and Chele to their respective offices. Batch seconded, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report/Finance** – John reported that no funds have been expended to date. Last year's LUCT funds were not transferred to the Conservation Fund until this year. Therefore, in the 2017 town report there is no record of it. The 2018 town report should show two LUCT transfers to the Conservation Fund, which now stands at \$77,582.71.

**Planning Board** – Eric reported that the board approved a scenic road application for Eversource clearing trees and branches around power lines. Roads include AMC Lane, Breakneck Hill Road, Brown Hill Road, Bryant Road, Bunker Hill Road, Cleveland Hill Road, Depot Road, Durrell Road, Ferncroft Road, Fowler's Mill Road, Gilman Valley Road, Great Hill Road, Hemingway Road, Lord's Hill Road, Mason Hill Road, Mill Road, Mountain Road, Mt. Mexico Road, Old Mail Road, Paugus Road, and Pease Hill Road. If you live near any of these roads and you want wood chips delivered, call Jon Lamphere, 603-223-7445.

**Selectmen** – Steve Gray distributed copies of an article from Town and City Magazine concerning mitigating spring mud problems on public trails.

### **Land Conservation**

**Community School** – Nelson announced that there would be a CLRC meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss the bank's asking price for the easement, which is more than the opinion of value calculated by Tom Howard.

**Map/Lot 405/13** – The family does not want to pay the stewardship fees that are required by Lakes Region Conservation Trust. They need to reach a consensus among themselves before considering any other options.

**Easement Monitoring** – It's never too early to get started.

**Wetlands** – Nelson contacted the NH Wetlands Bureau concerning the expedited wetlands application for Tax Map/Lot 411/05. The concern was that TCC was reluctant to make any comments on the application until snow melted and the site could be inspected. The Bureau suggested that he send the application back unsigned. [*Note: a check online shows that the application was approved on March 7, 2018*]

### **Public Education and Outreach**

**Sponsorship/Scholarships** – The Barry Camp Scholarship is all set. Donna Ulitz has some candidates for two Tim Mountain programs. She and Dexter will work out arrangements.

**TCC/Cook Library Co-sponsorship** – The Eric Masterson presentation, “Kettle of One”, is all set for April 11, 7 pm, at the Cook Library. It is a presentation “*about following the migration of the Broad-winged Hawks from NH to Mexico, on his bicycle. A flock of migrating hawks gaining altitude in a thermal of rising air is known as a "kettle," but a solo bicyclist following the migration on land is a Kettle of One.*”

**Vernal Pool Walk** – Stephanie suggested having a vernal pool walk this year. Chris Conrod agreed to lead it. Chris and Stephanie will work out particulars.

**Other Business** – Chele has been asked to write about recent TCC activities for the Green Mountain Conservation Group newsletter. Suggestions included the summer camp scholarships and other public outreach stuff. She will review recent minutes and submit “a couple of lines.”

**Adjourn** – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Batch moved, Stephanie seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

*Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.*

*Attachment: TCC Committee Assignments as of March 12, 2018.*

### **Committee/Task Assignments**

**CLRC:** Ned Beecher, Dexter Harding, Chele Miller, Nelson O'Bryan (non-TCC members are Katy Thompson, David White, David Little, and John Mersfelder)

**Trails:** Kit Morgan, Nelson O'Bryan

**Maps and boxes:** Bill Batchelder

**Outreach and Education:** Stephanie Doyle (Hikin' Herons, Lectures, Website), Lucy Gatchell (Lectures), Rich Gerard (Scholarships), John Watkins (Website), Kit Morgan, Charlie Townsend (Hikin' Herons, Lectures)

**Wetlands/Shorelands:** Ned Beecher, Bill Batchelder

**Easement Monitoring:** Chele Miller, Eric Dube

**Landfill Gas Monitoring:** Bill Batchelder, Nelson O'Bryan