

Tamworth Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes – July 9, 2018

Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting

Call to Order – Nelson O'Bryan called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm. Commissioners present were Nelson O'Bryan, Charlie Townsend, Chele Miller and John Watkins. Commissioners absent: Stephanie Doyle and William Batchelder. Alternates present: Eric Dube, Lucy Gatchell, Kit Morgan and Dexter Harding. Nelson assigned Eric, Lucy and Dexter to fill the three empty seats.

Also present: Steve Gray, Selectman; Adam Weeks, Five Days in Sandwich program; Melanie Streeter and Casslyn Cook, proponents of a Tamworth program similar to Five Days in Sandwich; and David Little, Tamworth Foundation.

Approval of Minutes for 06/11/2018 – It was noted that the Household Hazardous Waste Day is scheduled for August 4th, not August 6th as written in the minutes. Voted to accept minutes with the correction.

Administrative

Received copy of Green Mountain Conservation Group (GMCG) Watershed News.

Household Hazardous Waste Day is scheduled for August 4th. Sue Stowbridge can still use more volunteers. Contact her at sue.stowbridge@gmail.com.

The Blue Heron House, the new headquarters for GMCG, Will be having a grand opening on July 21, 2018.

Five Days of Sandwich – Adam Weeks, program director, was invited at the request of Melanie Streeter and Casslyn Cook to present this program sponsored by the Sandwich Conservation Commission (http://www.sandwichnh.org/boards_and_committees/5_days_of_sandwich_camp.php), with the thought that TCC might start a similar program. Adam described the program, which has been going on for 30 years and is currently funded at \$10,000. The intent is to introduce the local natural and cultural resources to local children. There are three age groups and each group participates for five consecutive days in July. Activities include crafts and outings. Upon further discussion, it was decided to have Nelson put together an investigatory committee to inventory all the children's summer programs in Tamworth and evaluate whether a program similar to Five Days of Sandwich is needed and, if so, develop the details of such a program for proposal to the TCC and the town.

Treasurer's Report/Finance – John reported no new expenses but there are a couple of items, including a quarterly paycheck, that did not show up on the latest statement.

Planning Board – Eric reported that the proposed subdivision on Chinook Trail is in a boundary line dispute so no further action will be taken until the dispute is settled.

Board of Selectmen – Steve Gray reported that the Selectmen have been busy working on the Capital Improvement Plan and dealing with the noise ordinance. He said that NH Department of Parks and Recreation has announced that there will be no gates on Irene's Way and that they want to make the boat launch "car-top only". The Selectmen continue to hold the position that Irene's Way is a town road. Steve also complimented TCC on the Family Day parade participation.

Land Conservation

Nelson reported that he has contacted the Town Attorney about starting the legal paperwork for acquiring the piece of Community School (TCS) property on Bunker Hill Road. He has yet to receive a response. Discussion with Planning Board members indicates that a boundary line adjustment would be the simplest and cheapest method of acquisition but the deeds on record do not match the property as TCC has traditionally viewed it. There may need to be a land survey of the town property or TCS would need to subdivide the property before sale. More investigation is needed.

Public Education and Outreach

Lucy Has measured the plexiglass at the fire tower and will soon get a quote for replacing it. She also intends to look into having a presentation by Pam Hunt of the New Hampshire Audubon Society, either dragonflies or something else Pam would like to talk about.

Reception of TCC,s participation in the parade was positive and a good time was had by all.

Chele is looking into lining up a presentation by Sue Morse, with a co-sponsorship with Wonalancet Out Door Club. It could either be about bears or the effects of climate change on northern animals.

Wetlands/Shoreline – The after-the-fact wetlands permit application for Tax Map 410/Lots 87 & 88 is now being handled by a new agent who has filed for an extension and stated that there will be additional impacts and permits needed, including an alteration of terrain permit. Batch has been in contact with DES and hopefully TCC will be included in future correspondence and other actions.

Managed Lands and Trails – Nelson reported that Mark Streeter has been lined up for mowing the Bearcamp Field. Trails are in good shape except for some remaining blowdowns on the Peg King and Betty Steele trails in the Big Pines area, which should be taken care of soon. Please report any new blowdowns that you find.

Adjourn – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Eric moved, Dexter seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.