

Tamworth Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes – March 14, 2016

Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting

Call to Order – Nelson O'Bryan called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Commissioners present were Nelson O'Bryan, William Batchelder, Chele Miller, Rich Gerard, Bob Seston, Ned Beecher, and Shannon Maes. Alternates present: John Watkins.

Also present: Steve Gray, Selectman.

Approval of Minutes for 02/08/2016 – Moved by Chele to accept the minutes with the correction of the spelling of Chris Clyne's last name. Shannon seconded, motion carried.

Announcements

Received copy of revised plan for NH-DES dredge and fill application for a pond on Tax Map/Lot 203/14.

Sue Stowbridge has agreed to serve again as the Household Hazardous Waste Day coordinator.

The Selectmen have approved the TCC recommendation to appoint Chele Miller and Stephanie Doyle to new three-year terms as TCC commissioners.

The TCC proposed annual budget was approved at Town Meeting on 03/09/2016.

The Selectmen did not insert into the Town Warrant the proposed article to increase the maximum amount of LUCT revenue deposited in the Conservation Fund. They recommend that the article should be submitted by petition.

Treasurer's Report/Financial – Because the annual budget was just recently approved, no monthly statement has been issued by the Town Treasurer yet. Bob announced that there were no LUCT proceeds collected by the town last year. Therefore, there was nothing deposited in the Conservation Fund.

Membership – Alternates John Watkins and Eric Dube are willing to serve another three-year term. Ned moved that they be recommended to the Selectmen. Bob seconded, motion carried.

Election of Officers – Batch nominated the following slate of officers for 2016: Chair, Nelson O'Bryan; Vice-Chair, Ned Beecher; Secretary, Chele Miller; Treasurer, Bob Seston. Shannon seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Planning Board – Eric Dube reported via Nelson that the Planning Board has recently reviewed one boundary line adjustment on Depot Road and is reviewing the scenic road regulation for possible revisions.

Conservation Easements – Nelson announced that the owner of Tax Map/Lot 203/70 is working with Tom Howard on selling the property for conservation purposes. There has been some communication with Lakes Region Conservation Trust but nothing definite yet. TCC may be offered an opportunity to help facilitate a transaction.

Public Education and Outreach – 250th Celebration progress reports:

Tree Cookie – Chele reported that the cookie was displayed at the Town Meeting. Group consensus is to have a single, narrow time line on the cookie so to not obscure much of the wood. She recommends that the poster(s) will not be needed and the funds might be better spent on displays of the photo contest. It would be good to have a few smaller, hands-on cookies that people could pick up and examine. Nelson, Ned, Chris will supply some.

Photo Contest – Nelson reported that a few submissions have been received. He will research the cost of an electronic picture frame for display purposes at the Town Office if approved by the Town Clerk.

250 Hikin' Herons – After discussion, it was reiterated that there will be a special commemorative patch for 2016. Shannon is going to do the math and decide if total miles or numbers of hikers' feet/paws will be the 250 goal instead of actual hikers. This project will be offered to Stephanie when she comes on board.

Student Scholarship: Rich asked if the commission preferred to sponsor one older student for a multi-day program or a couple of younger students for shorter programs. TCC has no definite preference. Rich will give Ed Fayle, teacher at Kennett with contacts at Brett, the option to choose whatever works with a \$500 limit.

Selectmen – Steve Gray drew the short straw to be the TCC Selectmen's rep this year. However, he also drew the short straw for the Library, which has an overlapping meeting schedule. So things may change. Steve reported that the Selectmen have had their hands full the previous week, trying to fill town officer vacancies.

Managed Lands and Trails – Nelson put up three wood duck boxes at Jackman Pond last week, with the assistance of Chris Conrod. Nelson and Rich will put up two boxes at Waterfowl Haven after the water level goes down a bit. Nelson will be scheduling the annual Trail Maintenance Day soon. It might even be as early as April this year. Chocorua Mountain Club's Trail Day is on May 14th.

Adjourn – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Batch moved, Ned seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.