

## **Tamworth Conservation Commission**

Draft Minutes – April 11, 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,, Ned Beecher. and Stephanie Doyle. Commissioners absent: Bob Seston. Alternates present: John Watkins, Eric Dube, Charlie Townsend. Nelson designated Eric to sit in Bob's empty seat.

Also present: Steve Gray, Selectman.

**Approval of Minutes for 03/14/2016** – Moved by Batch to accept the minutes as written. Rich seconded, motion carried. Eric abstained.

### **Administrative**

**Announcements:** Planning and Zoning Conference June 4, Concord NH.

**Membership:** Eric and John have been sworn in for their new terms as alternates.

**Committees:** Everyone is content to continue to serve on their assigned committees. The only change is that Stephanie will take over heading up Public Education and Outreach, which was formally chaired by Shannon Maes.

**Treasurer's Report/Financial** – TCC has yet to receive the Town Treasurer's monthly statements for 2016. Eric reported that the Planning Board has yet to receive one so it doesn't appear that TCC has been specifically forgotten.

**Saving Special Places** – Chele and John reported on attending the conference. Chele's take home message was to be careful when using email for correspondence while negotiating land protection projects. Be sure to specify that the email is NOT a legal contract. John asked that the link for the NHF&G vernal pool manual be included in the minutes:

<http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/nongame/documents/vernal-pool-manual.pdf>

Ned moved to authorize reimbursement of \$60 each to Chele and John for expenses for attending the Saving Special Places conference. Rich seconded, motion carried.

**Selectmen** – Steve Gray reported that the Selectmen have been doing a good job of minding their own business. Darlene has been stoically taking on all the added pressure resulting from Cassandra's resignation. The Selectmen are working on getting temporary and permanent administrative help.

**Planning Board** – Eric Dube reported that the Planning Board approved a subdivision application on Gardner Hill Road and they have a boundary line adjustment application that is incomplete; it is awaiting verification that the signatory is a legal, authorized representative of the trust.

**Conservation Easements** – Nelson has met with the owner of Tax Map/Lot 203/70 and his agent, Tom Howard. The owner is in discussion with the owner of the abutting Tax Map/Lot 203/1, who is also interested in land conservation. They are considering options for a collaborative project. NHF&G is interested in the properties. TCC may be invited to participate in the future.

**Public Education and Outreach** – 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration progress reports:

Tree Cookie – Chele presented the dates and text intended to be on the time line.

Commissioners should review them and make any suggestions for changes within the next week or two.

Photo Contest – Nelson reported 19 photos submitted so far. Some are VERY good. Kim okeyed a small electronic picture frame on the town clerk's counter. If it is larger, the Selectman would have to approve hanging it on the wall.

250 Hikin' Herons – Special patches have been ordered. The goal is 38 new hikers, which makes 250 miles. Reviewed draft of press release; will add notice that maps of all trails are available on the TCC web site.

**Student Scholarship:** Rich reported that Ed Fayle has one student lined up and he could quickly get another one. The Tin Mountain Canoe Voyagers program costs \$260. Eric moved that TCC approve spending \$520 for two students attending the Canoe Voyagers program. Ned seconded, motion carried.

**Co-sponsor with Cook Library:** The library wants to present Jeff Marts, hydrologist-geologist, with a program on aquifers and water quality. Cost to co-sponsor would probably be \$25-\$50. Agreed to inform the library that TCC would like to co-sponsor the event. Chele reported that WODC is looking into having Susan Morse do a presentation later in the year. TCC might be invited to co-sponsor it.

**TCC Bird Walks:** Ned announced that the weekly Spring Bird Walks will start Wednesday, April 20. There will be five walks, running to May 18. Meet at 7:00 am at the Tamworth Town House parking area.

**Managed Lands and Trails** – Discussed the possibility of releasing the apple trees in or near the old field at Waterfowl Haven. Maybe pruning and/or fertilizing. The stream crossing at the Remick Natural Area needs a new board. The Page Hill property is still for sale. John Watkins will see about getting a copy of the deeded right-of-way to the real estate agent. *[Contrary to what was stated during the meeting, the Page Hill easement IS registered with Carroll County Registry of Deeds: Volume 1756, Page 567, 1998 – CC, Admin. Asst.]*

**Adjourn** – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Chele moved, Stephanie seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

*Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.*