

Tamworth Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes – February 9, 2015

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, William Batchelder, Chele Miller, Rich Gerard, and Bob Seston.

Commissioners absent: Shannon Maes and Ned Beecher. Alternates present: John Watkins.

Nelson appointed John to sit in one of the empty seats.

Approval of Minutes for 01/12/2015 – John moved to accept the minutes. Rich seconded, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report/Financial – Bob moved to authorize reimbursement of \$204.88 to Nelson for expenses incurred in advertising and provisioning the land conservation celebration of January 17. Chele seconded. Nelson explained that most of the work and refreshments were donated; this money covered purchasing and mailing post cards and some food items. Motion carried.

Membership – The terms for Batch and Nelson expire in March. Both have agreed to serve another term. Chele moved and John seconded that Nelson request the Selectmen to reappoint Batch and Nelson. Motion carried. Nelson expressed a desire to have more alternates (TCC currently has three alternates).

Land Protection Celebration – Nelson reported that he received numerous positive comments from the approximately 50 guests who attended the celebration on January 17. There were just enough refreshments; the flat-bread pizza and cookies were a big hit. Apparently no one left completely famished because there were a few celery sticks left over. Thanks go to the many people who helped make this event a rousing success.

250th Town Anniversary – Nelson reminded everyone that TCC needs to come up with plans for the celebration. He will re-check with John Wacker about timing for submitting plans/proposals concerning events for the celebration. Further discussion on treasure hunt: maybe make the “treasures” and locations relevant to the town's history; one season-long treasure hunt in installments? This should be discussed further.

Easement Monitoring – Chele and Eric have been working on inventorying and reorganizing the file system for the conservation easements. They have created a separate set of files, specifically for holding completed easement inspection reports, in the bottom drawer of the file cabinet. This should prevent confusion about where the reports should be filed. They are considering having the option available for monitors to send e-copies to the Administrative Assistant, who will then file hard copies in the appropriate folders.

Wetlands/Shoreland Protection – The State is still reviewing complaints concerning a view cut on Lake Chocorua; there has been no final decision made to date. TCC concerns and questions about work on the former Cersosimo/Saunders lot on the Bearcamp River have been passed on to the Selectmen.

Other Business – Announced that there is a bill in the NH legislature to allow towns to allocate proceeds from the timber tax to the Conservation Fund. It would be worth following the progress of this bill. Nelson reminded the Commission that the annual Saving Special Places conference is on April 11 at John Stark Regional High School in Weare.

Adjourn – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Batch moved, Rich seconded, motion carried 7:42 pm.

Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.