

Tamworth Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes – July 10, 2017

Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting

Call to Order – Nelson O'Bryan called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Commissioners present were Nelson O'Bryan, Chele Miller, Rich Gerard and William Batchelder,. Commissioners absent: Stephanie Doyle, Ned Beecher and John Watkins (John arrived late). Alternates present were Charlie Townsend, Eric Dube and Lucy Gatchell. Nelson appointed all three alternates to fill the empty seats.

Also present: Steve Gray, Selectman.

Approval of Minutes for 06/19/2017 – Moved by Batch to accept the minutes as written. Chele seconded, motion carried with Eric abstaining.

Administrative Announcements:

Household Hazardous Waste Day – Will be on August 5, 8:30 am to Noon. Sue Stowbridge can still use some volunteers. Contact her if you can help.

Received copies of three DES forestry notification permits and one DES approval for stream habitat improvement for an unnamed brook east of Great Hill Road.

Drug Disposal – Steve Gray mentioned that the HHWD at Meredith will take lithium batteries and other items not accepted at the Ossipee and Moultonborough stations. He also said that any and all drugs are accepted at the Conway Police Station, no questions asked.

At this point, John Watkins arrived and took his seat at the table. Lucy was sitting in the public seating area and she made no motions or seconds throughout the meeting so I assume she vacated her official seat when John arrived. I was going to ask a point of order concerning this but by the time there was a break in the conversation, I was too busy taking notes and forgot to ask.

Treasurer's Report – John reported that there is 62% of the budget left, which is about \$4695. None of the line items appear to be in danger of going over budget.

Selectmen – Steve mentioned that, in reading the minutes of last month's meeting, he thought the discussion on geo-referencing tax maps was interesting and informative. He added that he is looking favorably on having the work done in the hopes that it would help in property tax assessments, Much depends on cost.

Steve reported that Parker Roberts, Town Recreation Director, was disappointed that TCC did not participate in the Family Day Parade this year. He hopes the Commission will return next year.

Land Conservation – Nelson reported that the Opinion of Value for the Community School property has been received and the Conservation Lands Review Committee (CLRC) has met to discuss the proposal. The total conservation value for the two areas in question is about \$25,000. Upon review of the proposal, CLRC believes that the Route 113 parcel would be better off remaining as available development property because of its location but the Bunker Hill Road parcel would be valuable in creating a buffer for Jackman Pond Wildlife Area and Perkins Easement land. Nelson relayed this information to Lianne Prentice at the Community School. The school board will meet on July 17 and discuss it at that time.

Public Education and Outreach

2015 Edition of NHF&G Wildlife Action Plan Maps: Nelson is looking into getting the paper maps laminated. He'll try the businesses recommended by commissioners.

Easement Monitoring – It's never too early to monitor your easement. Nelson gave a reminder/clarification that all reports go to the Administrative Assistant. Electronic copies are preferred but paper will be accepted. For those monitors whose property inspections require notification to a executory interest, please state on or with the report whether or not you have sent any necessary notifications.

Wetlands – Butch Thompson, 249 White Mountain Highway, contacted Nelson for help in determining what actions he needs to take before creating a treatment/settling swale on a small, seasonal brook. John, Batch and Nelson went out to inspect the site and discuss the project with the landowner. Nelson gave Mr. Thompson contact information for NH-DES Wetlands, which would be the agency he would need to deal with if any permits are required.

Managed Lands and Trails

Waterfowl Haven – Nelson reported that there is still some trail work to do in Waterfowl Haven. He has been waiting for the area to dry out before beginning work. The weather has not been cooperating.

Black Spruce Bogs Access – Steve Gray recounted the disagreement between Tamworth and the State Parks Department concerning Irene's Way (Fisherman's Road) at White Lake. This has been going on for over a year. Both the Town and the State claim ownership. Neither wants to go to court but the town believes it has some good evidence that the road has been maintained by the town going way back. There is now a tentative, informal truce between agencies. The State will remove some no parking signs and locals will be able to access the lake via the road. There are some opinions on both sides of the issue that the road should be gated during off hours, which have yet to be determined.

Other Business – No other business.

Adjourn – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Batch moved, John and Eric simultaneously seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.