

Tamworth Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes – April 8, 2013

Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting

Call to Order – Nelson called meeting to order at 7:05pm. Commissioners present were Nelson O'Bryan, Rich Gerard, Chele Miller, Bob Seston and William Batchelder. Ned Beecher was absent.

Also present: Steve Gray, Selectman; Mark Lane; Eric Dube; Shannon Maes; John Watkins; Sam Martin.

Approval of Minutes for 03/11/2013 – Batch moved to accept, Chele seconded. Minutes were accepted.

Administrative

Announcements – NHDES is hosting a conference on drinking water source protection May 1st. GMCG will conduct its annual water monitoring training April 13, 10 - 12:30.

Membership–

Prospective Alternate Members – Shannon Maes is originally from Colorado, graduated from Sterling College with a major in Conservation Ecology. She likes the town government system in New England and would like to get involved. John Watkins first arrived in Tamworth at the age of six months and has had a connection with the town ever since. He is involved with the Chocorua Lake Association and particularly interested in land conservation. His aunt, Pauline Crane, was a founding member of TCC. Chele moved to recommend to the Selectmen that they appoint Shannon and John as Alternates to the TCC. Rich seconded, motion carried. Nelson will inform the Selectmen and notify Eric (approved last meeting), Shannon and John when the Selectmen appoint them so they can get sworn in.

Reappointed Members – Chele has been reappointed to a three year term by the Selectmen. She still needs to be sworn in.

Election of Officers – Nelson reported that the following slate is/are willing to serve as officers: Nelson O'Bryan, Chair; Ned Beecher, Vice Chair; Robert Seston, Treasurer; Chele Miller, Secretary. Rich moved to accept the slate, Batch seconded, motion carried.

Wetlands and Sub-surface Committee: Wetlands Matters

Petitioned Ballot Initiatives – The two petitioned ballot questions concerning the Tamworth Wetlands Conservation Ordinance passed on March 12. Tamworth no longer has a wetlands ordinance. TCC will still be involved with the NH-DES permitting process.

Saint Andrews wetlands application to Planning Board – Steve Gray reported that the Planning Board canceled the public hearing because they no longer have jurisdiction.

Committee/Coordinator Reports

Selectmen – Steve Gray had no Selectmen activities to report but mentioned that GMCG is looking for water quality monitoring volunteers.

Planning Board – Rebecca Boyden is the new Planning Board representative to TCC. She could not make this meeting. Nelson announced that Planning Board members made a donation of \$100 to TCC in honor of Herb Cooper for his work. The question is what to do with the money. Nelson will talk with the Planning Board and Herb for ideas.

Conservation Lands Review Committee – Nelson reported that a copy of the Reich property survey plat has been sent to SPNHF. There is no word yet on the grant application to NH Charitable Foundation.

Public Education and Outreach

Vernal Pool Presentation – TCC and the Tamworth Lyceum are co-hosting a vernal pool talk and walk presented by Chris Conrod at the Lyceum April 20, 1 pm. Slide show at the Lyceum and then an optional visit to a vernal pool.

Hikin' Heron advertising – Nelson announced that the Greater Ossipee Chamber of Commerce is putting together a brochure of things to do in the area. Would it be worth submitting something on the TCC trail system? There may be a fee. Nelson will look into it. Sam Martin said she believes that the Town is a member of the Chamber. Nelson will check on that.

Easement Monitoring – The restructuring of the Alt easement monitoring system is complete: two groups, east and west. Chris Conrod will take the west group; the east group needs a monitor or monitors. Mark Lane, Eric Dube and Shannon Maes are interested in leaning more about easement monitoring. Margaret Rieser indicated that she would still help out. Rich will confirm that the help includes the easements she has been monitoring.

Managed Lands and Trails – Nelson will be scheduling a spring work day soon and will get the word out. The Black Spruce trail signs have been made by White Lake State Park and need to be put up. Batch is checking on the map boxes; so far they are all there and in good repair except for the Black Spruce one near the lake, which was vandalized. If it's still serviceable it can be put back up a little further down the trail. Mark Lane asked if the trail work days will be publicly posted. Yes, there will be an announcement on the Tamworth Exchange.

Other Business – Batch asked what the status is on the tower web cam. They have permission from the town but they are still fundraising. Steve Gray mentioned that TCC should soon be getting a request for permission to use the tower for a wedding.

Adjourn – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Batch moved, Chele seconded, motion carried 7:50 pm.

Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.