

# **Tamworth Conservation Commission**

Draft Minutes – May 14, 2012

## ***Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting***

**Call to Order** – Ned called meeting to order at 7:11 pm. Commissioners present were Ned Beecher, William Batchelder, Bob Seston, Rich Gerard, Chele Miller, Nelson O'Bryan, and Margaret Rieser.

Also present: Bob Abraham, Selectman's representative to TCC; Greg Howard, agent for Wetlands SUP applicant; Ruth Timchak; Lindy Gray; John Mersfelder

### **Wetlands SUP Application – Chocorua Valley Lumber (Tax map lots 205/2 & 206/41)**

In order to accommodate Greg Howard, agent for Chocorua Valley Lumber, and to hold transitional continuity from the preceding Wetlands and Sub-surface Committee meeting, Ned immediately opened discussion on the Chocorua Valley Lumber SUP application that has been accepted as complete by the Planning Board. Ned reviewed discussion during the Wetlands and Sub-surface Committee meeting (see committee minutes of 05/14/2012). He continued to show the slides from that Committee meeting (available) on which were written the following recommendations:

- Current level of fine ~\$74,500
- Fine reduction possible with good cooperation
- Monitoring by Town, negotiated schedule of milestones (G Howard will develop schedule of performance standards)
- Negotiation with landowner on fine; Ned will attend Selectmen's meeting to discuss with them about the fine.

Bob Abraham stated that there is still a lot to work out concerning any reduction of the fine; it all depends on the cooperation of the landowner. Greg Howard requested that he be given some idea of the Town's expectations of the applicant by June 4, 2012. Bob A. asked if the Planning Board could put conditions on an SUP approval. That would have to be discussed with the Planning Board. The application is for an after-the-fact permit for approximately 112,000 square feet of impacts plus remediation work. Nelson moved to accept recommendations of the Committee for submission to the Selectmen. Margaret seconded. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes for 04/09/2012** – Chele moved to accept minutes. Batch seconded. Motion carried.

### **Administrative**

**Treasurer's Report** – Margaret reported that \$5000 of LUCT funds were placed in the Conservation Fund on December 21, 2011. In addition to clerical expenses, \$402.50 was expended for legal expenses last month. Ned submitted a bill from the Town Attorney of \$17.50 for email consultation. Margaret moved to authorize the expenditure. Nelson seconded. Motion carried.

**Announcements** – SPNHF is offering a conservation easement monitoring workshop; see Ned for details if you didn't receive a copy of the brochure. A forestry wetland notification was received for tax map lot 202/31, owned by Remick Foundation.

**Membership** – Batch and Nelson have been sworn in for reappointment.

**Master Plan** – Agreed to postpone discussion.

### **Committee/Coordinator Reports**

**Selectmen** – Bob Abraham gave an update on Historical Society activities reported at their recent meeting. Friends of the Barnstormers told the Selectmen they might purchase the Gilman Tavern to use as lodging for staff and cast.

**Planning Board** – Ned and Bob discussed the floodplain map revisions and recommendations to FEMA. The Selectmen sent a letter to FEMA suggesting the removal of all areas in Zone A, a reassessment of Zone AE using the most current stream flow data, and to fix spelling and incorrect nomenclature. A letter with specific Zone A areas to re-investigate was received by the Selectmen from

the Planning Board after they sent their suggestions. The Selectmen did not forward this Planning Board letter to FEMA, because it was duplicative and after the deadline, according to Bob.

**Conservation Lands Review Committee** – There has been further discussion with Bob Floyd concerning conservation of Bearcamp Valley Farm. Bob would like to put an easement on the field on the north side of Route 25 (tax map lot 420-14). The Committee will be meeting on Friday, May 18, 2012. Ned reviewed the provisions regarding signs and agriculture-related structures in the easement on the Beaver Brook lot in response to a question from Bob A.

**Public Education and Outreach** –

1. Hikin' Herons – Chele is running low on the green Hikin' Heron application cards. Margaret moved to authorize purchasing 100 more cards. Nelson seconded. Motion carried.
2. Family Day / Parade – Possible themes suggested were puppets, invite hikin' herons to march/hike/saunter/skip/ride with TCC in parade. Agreed to create a bunch of “stuff” at Ned's house on June 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Easement Monitoring** – Rich is still updating files. He'll have a new spreadsheet done soon. The Irwin and Lindsey monitor copies are missing. Kathy Bunker may have the Lindsey copy.

**Managed Lands and Trails** – Rich, Ned and Chris Clyne looked at the Big Pines trails and discussed improvements. Saturday, May 12 was a trails work day. Rich, Ned, Nelson, David Halpin and one other person participated. Still waiting on signs at White Lake / Black Spruce Bogs. The open well at Waterfowl Haven is a hazard; Ned and Dave H. looked at it Saturday. Bob A. has some steel mesh that he could fashion for a top. He and Ned will devise a cover for the well. Ned met with Bob Hardy and Bob Spoerl at Big Pines today. They gave the go-ahead for the work that Rich, Ned, and Chris Clyne identified. They also made suggestions for other work the TCC could do, including moving treadways and taking down dead/dying trees that could jeopardize the bridge. There will be an on-site meeting with Fish and Game at the Bearcamp River Trail on June 29. They have completed the forestry work. Chele reported that the refurbished Big Trails sign will be ready soon, according to Bob Hardy, who Chele saw earlier today.

**Household Hazardous Waste Day** – The dates have been set: July 28 and August 4 (this is when Moultonborough and Ossipee sites are open; closest sites for Tamworth residents). The administrative assistant will put a notice on the website.

**Public Comment** – Ruth Timchak wondered why the town could not require Chocorua Valley Lumber to post a bond on the proposed work. Ned thanked her for the suggestion.

**Other Business** – It was noted that the Town collected \$22,234 in LUCT funds last year.

**Adjourn** – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Margaret moved, Rich seconded, motion carried 8:52 pm.

*Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.*