

Tamworth Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes – July 11, 2011

Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting

Call to Order – Ned called meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Commissioners present were Ned Beecher, Nelson O'Bryan, William Batchelder, Rich Gerard, Chele Miller; Margaret Rieser arrived at 7:13. Ned designated Charlie Townsend (Alternate) to sit in for Bob Seston, who arrived after 8:00 pm, but deferred his seat to Charlie.

Also present: Skip Nason (Planning Board), David Little (Planning Board, but apparently attending as an engaged town resident).

Approval of Minutes – 06/13/2011 Nelson moved to accept, Chele seconded, motion carried.

Administrative

Treasurer's Report – Statement from conservation fund; after expenses for Western Field easement and a contribution, the balance is now at \$57,664.60. Bill from Paul King for \$440 (surveying boundary line at Community School/Perkins easement). Chele moved to pay the bill, Nelson seconded, motion carried. Printing bill of \$83.00 for 400 Hiking Heron cards, payed by Chele. Patches are on order and will cost \$200. Margaret moved to reimburse Chele, Nelson seconded, motion carried.

Announcements – NH Coverts 3-day wildlife workshop is looking for attendee nominations. Skip reminded TCC of GMCW Watershed Weekend coming up July 23-24.

Wetlands and Sub-surface Committee: Wetlands Matters

Prime Wetlands – Barry Keith will attend August meeting; Ned suggested a Wetlands Comm. meeting after meeting with Barry. Should send Barry a letter/email with TCC questions/concerns. Suggested questions: Does wetlands ordinance make Prime Wetlands moot? What are his methods for delineating prime wetlands? Ned will collect more questions and contact Barry before the August meeting.

Chocorua Valley Lumber – TCC received a copy of Selectmen's letter to CVL concerning remediation plan and the need for new applications. Ned noted that DES is expecting applications for alteration of terrain and wetlands in the near future. The Selectmen's letter reminds CVL that they will also need a local SUP. The Selectmen still have accruing fines applicable to the violation of town ordinance.

Club Motorsports potential violation – Greg Howard report was accepted by Selectmen; they voted to ask town attorney to file for a cease and desist order; subject to fine of \$100/day. Hearing Thursday 1:30 Ossipee Superior Court; Ned was asked to attend and he will. There may be questions concerning the minutes of an October 2006 TCC meeting. Ned noted that the Ordinance states that when complaint filed, commission can provide recommendation as to course of action. Ned asked if any commissioners thought TCC should make any recommendations at this time. Batch recused himself on any discussion on CMI. Rich disclosed that his company did timber sale supervision work for CMI in 2006. Rich believes he can discuss the matter impartially. Nelson: it may be presumptuous of TCC to make a recommendation at this time. Ned agreed and said the Thursday hearing will likely shed light on the matter that would be useful in any recommendations TCC may consider making. General agreement to make no recommendations at this time.

Committee/Coordinator Reports

Planning Board – Skip: Sanborn Brook Special Use Permit was voted on; permit granted. TCC will be copied on results of first year of the project; Fish & Game electroshock may be delayed due to state budget constraints. PB is working on revising forms for subdivisions and boundary line adjustments.

Public Education and Outreach – Hikin’ Heron program – 200 cards handed out at parade, people were enthusiastic; a lot of quick work accomplished by Chele and Margaret to get this up and running, with Charlie creating the Hikin’ Heron graphic. The TCC thanks them for their excellent work. Chris Clyne and Ned made a large blue heron for the parade, and Chele, Margaret, Charlie, Deb Maille also marched in the parade for the TCC, announcing the Hikin’ Heron program; Chris Conrod updated the web site with the Hikin’ Heron info; patches will be delivered in a few weeks. The Community School wants some of the brochures/forms to distribute there; we should put forms at Library and in town Office. Chris Clyne has completed entire challenge in one day today. Discussed promotion of geocaching and letterboxing opportunities on the Town trails as well.

Easement Monitoring – Community School boundary blazing: Rich, Paul King, Nelson, with Jenny Rowe, installed two granite bounds and blue blazes. Ned drafted letter to Fred Hanson, who has been friendly and cooperative, reviewing what has been done and what needs to be done with a deadline of Oct 1st. Letter to be sent, with copy to Steve Walker, Office of Energy & Planning.

Managed Lands and Trails

Cleveland Hill Road town property – update by Rich – surprised with amount of timber on lot. Too much to do on volunteer basis. Recommend that town hire a forester to do Best Management Practices cut. Take over-mature pine and hardwood understory to encourage pine regeneration. Thinning would bring in 3 to 5 thousand dollars. Agreed to make recommendation to selectmen that the lot be managed for timber in line with practices as Rich discussed. Historical significance should be studied before harvesting begins. Ned will draft recommendation for Selectmen.

Page Hill Trail – Ned will clean water bars and check in with owners about the trail.

Trail Signs – Nelson: need signs on TCC trails, including Black Spruce Bogs. Also the big BSB donated sign needs to go up. Also signs for Waterfowl Haven. Probably five or six signs total. White Lake SP (Eric Nelson is superintendent) might make signs for TCC over the winter. Ask him first.

John Wheeler volunteered to mow Waterfowl Haven field; he’ll be asked to do so in the fall.

Easy Walker Trail work – Chris Clyne said it needs blazing. Nelson and Rich will take care of it.

Conservation Lands Review Committee – Need meeting soon to complete Beaver Brook easement work, tie up loose ends at Western Field and remaining work on Bearcamp Valley Farm protection. Bob will schedule a meeting.

Other Business – Ned: Jim Bowditch says CLA is looking for someone to do a presentation in woods in August; anything outdoor related.

Adjourn – Batch moved, Margaret seconded, motion carried 8:43 pm.

Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.