

Tamworth Conservation Commission

Draft Minutes – December 11, 2017

Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting

Call to Order – Nelson O'Bryan called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. Commissioners present were Nelson O'Bryan, Chele Miller, Rich Gerard, John Watkins and Stephanie Doyle. Commissioners absent: Ned Beecher and William Batchelder. Alternates present: Lucy Gatchell. Nelson appointed Lucy to fill an empty seat.

Also present: Steve Gray, Selectman; Forest Bell, FB Environmental Associates; Kit Morgan, Corey Lane and Blair Folts, Green Mountain Conservation Group (GMCC); Dexter Harding.

Approval of Minutes for 11/13/2017 – Moved by Chele to accept the minutes as written. Stephanie seconded, motion carried.

Watershed Management – Forest Bell spoke to explain the watershed management project for the Ossipee Lake watershed that he is working on with GMCCG. They are developing a plan for the purposes of protecting water quality and to secure procurement of funds for costs to implement the plan. The primary water quality parameters they are using are total phosphorus, chlorophyll-a, and water clarity (secchi disk reading). Another important parameter that is dependent on the first three is dissolved oxygen. The basic idea of the plan is to slow down cultural eutrophication by mitigating the anthropogenic causes of phosphorus entering the water throughout the watershed. They are including build-out projections for various towns in the watershed. They have already completed some individual town plans, They hope to have a recommended plan for Tamworth soon.

Announcements

Ned couldn't make the meeting but he sent Christmas cookies. Thank you, Ned!

The 2018 Saving Special Places event will be in Alton on April 7.

Nelson will be attending a workshop on monitoring closed landfills at Concord in January.

Treasurer's Report/Finance –

John reported that 43% of the 2017 operating budget remains available for expenditure.

Received request for reimbursement from the Administrative Assistant: \$42.38 for office supplies. Stephanie moved to authorize payment, Lucy seconded, motion carried.

John will make sure to get all payables to Kathy this week so they will be charged to the 2017 budget.

Selectmen – Steve Gray reported that the Selectmen are still busy reviewing proposed budgets. He mentioned that the Planning Board has approved a subdivision on the Moscatti property in South Tamworth Village.

Land Conservation – The Community School board is still working with the bank, which must approve the proposed easement on land between Jackman Pond and Bunker Hill Road.

Public Education and Outreach –

Sponsorship/Scholarships – Agreed to sponsor one child for the Barry Camp and two children for Tin Mountain programs yet to be chosen. Rich will work on getting candidates so that the Barry Camp will know the gender of the student by February.

Cook Library Co-sponsorship – This is for an April program to be presented by Eric Masterson. Cook and TCC to split \$100 fee. Lucy moved, Stephanie seconded, motion carried.

Easement Monitoring – Chele reported that all easement monitoring tasks have been completed. Thanks to all the volunteer monitors.

Wetlands – The Stoddard Conservation Commission has asked other Commissions to support HB 1343—a revision of the current RSA 210:9. The revision would make people dealing with unwanted beaver dams more aware of alternative methods to control beavers and also require reporting of any beaver control measures taken. Chele moved to add TCC to the the list of conservation commissions supporting the bill. John seconded, motion carried. Nelson will notify the Stoddard Conservation Commission.

Managed Lands and Trails

Page Hill – Cornelia Lanoe wrote a letter of thanks for the view clearing TCC did on Page Hill. Meanwhile, Brian Cutter went back and cleared more trees. The view is excellent now.

Trail Clearing – Some of the blowdowns have been removed in Big Pines, thanks to Nelson and Sheldon Perry. There are more to do but no major obstacles. Now that there is snow cover, it will probably be Spring before the rest are dealt with.

Other Business – Nelson asked everyone to suggest possible new TCC members at the January meeting.

Adjourn – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Lucy moved, John seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:39pm.

Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.