

TAMWORTH CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Draft Minutes
February 8, 2010

Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting.

Present: Bill Batchelder, Ned Beecher, Kathy Bunker, David Little (Planning Board Representative), Nelson O'Bryan, Margaret Rieser, Charlie Townsend

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 7:02 by Chair Ned Beecher.

Approval of Minutes of January 18, 2010

- Kathy Bunker was thanked for taking the minutes of the January meeting. Margaret Rieser moved, and Bill Batchelder seconded, to accept the minutes of January 18, 2010. The motion carried with no objections.

Administrative

Budget / Finances

Charlie Townsend reported that the 2010 New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions dues will be paid from the 2010 budget.

Membership

Ned Beecher will ask Dave Haskell and Claes Thelemark if they intend to continue as members on the Commission. Margaret Rieser stated her willingness to be nominated for a three year term. Ned Beecher will put a notice on the Tamworth Exchange that alternate positions and one full member position are open.

Committee / Coordinator Reports

Planning Board Representative

David Little reported that the Capital Improvement Plan report has been submitted to the Select Board.

Landfill Monitoring

Nelson O'Bryan and Bill Batchelder reported that consistently low readings of methane were obtained during the February landfill monitoring. They agreed to continue with this responsibility during the coming year. Wells will be monitored again in May. In the summer the Commission will evaluate whether or not the town is saving money by having commission members volunteer this service.

Managed Lands and Trails Committee

TCC Brochure

- Bill Batchelder presented a proposed revision of the TCC brochure (including Great Hill Fire Tower and more about Waterfowl Haven). David Little will determine the approximate mileage of the trail in Waterfowl Haven and get it to Bill. Ned Beecher will notify Minuteman Press that an order will be placed for these in April, based on the estimate he had obtained from Minuteman.

Trail Map Boxes

- New trail map boxes for Jackman Pond, Waterfowl Haven, and Black Spruce Bogs should be installed in the spring.

Maintaining Nature Trails

- The Easy Walkers Trail at Big Pines and the Earle Remick Trail need to be remarked and descriptions updated to reflect any changes of features.

Great Hill Fire Tower Signs

- Margaret Rieser, Chris Conrod and Nelson O'Bryan assessed the trail condition and suggest eleven signs. A notice at the kiosk may direct walkers to the first sign. Kathy Bunker moved, and Margaret Rieser seconded, authorizing the expenditure of \$176 for signs. The motion passed with no objection. Ned Beecher will inform Bob Hardy of the plan.
- The Community School contacted the Commission regarding the use of motorized vehicles on the Jackman Pond Trail. Nelson O'Bryan will inform the Community School that they can post signs on

their property closing the trail to motorized vehicles. Ned Beecher will discuss posting the town owned part with the Select Board. Kathy Bunker and Nelson O'Bryan will look for a source of signs.

Ordinance Review

- A template has been created to be used for all town forms and applications.
- At town meeting a warrant article to repeal certain town ordinances will be presented. These ordinances have been superseded by state actions or more up-to-date town ordinances.

Outreach, Publications, Publicity, Education

- Margaret Rieser has organized a public hike to be led by the Bearcamp Trackers for 1:00 pm on February 21, 2010. Ned Beecher and Margaret Rieser will prepare a news release. Nelson O'Bryan will post the notice on the Sandwich Board.

Wetlands Matters

- Green Mountain Conservation Group sent a request to complete a survey of road salt usage. Susan Ticehurst will contact Bruce Robinson to request the information.
- Beaver activity has caused flooding around the Mill Brook Bridge. Ned Beecher will assist Jim Alt with a waiver request application under the Tamworth wetlands ordinance, which will go to the Planning Board and then be referred to the Commission for a recommendation. This is a chance to try out the new form and format created by the Ordinance Review Committee.

Well Head/Aquifer Protection & Water Quality Monitoring

- The Regional Work Group will meet on Friday, February 12, 2010 to discuss the road salt workshop and best management practices.
- The Green Mountain Conservation Group will address the Tamworth Planning Board on 2/24/10 to discuss a possible aquifer ordinance.
- The Planning Board Land Use Committee plans to meet on the third Monday of each month at 7 pm. Information will be made available to the public through a Yahoo group.

Land Acquisition & Easements

- The \$12,000 Gilman Project fundraising challenge was met by the January 31 deadline, boosting the Gilman fund by ~\$24,000.
- About \$13,000 remains to be raised by May 1, 2010.

Master Plan Implementation/2010 Goals

- The 2010 goals were reviewed.

Other Business

- Notification was received from the State of NH of a plan to harvest timber on the Dept. of Fish and Game p Hackett Hill management area.
- A Complete Forestry Notification for Map/Lot 412/46 was received.

Adjournment

Nelson O'Bryan moved, and Margaret Rieser seconded, to adjourn at 8:17 pm. The motion passed with no objection.