

Tamworth Conservation Commission
Draft Minutes – October 10, 2022, Tamworth Town Office
Draft minutes to be reviewed and approved at a subsequent meeting

Call to Order – Nelson O'Bryan called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Commissioners present were Nelson O'Bryan, Eileen Shelly, Jeremy Phillips, Dylan Alden and Kit Morgan. Commissioners absent: Charlie Townsend. Alternates present: Chele Miller and Lucy Gatchell. Alternates absent: Stephanie Doyle and Ned Beecher. Nelson appointed Chele and Lucy to fill the empty seats. Also present: Emery Roberts, Selectboard.

Approval of Minutes for 09/12/2022 – Chele moved to accept the minutes as written. Jeremy seconded, motion carried.

Administrative and Announcements – None.

Financial – Nelson reported that Green Mountain Conservation Group is asking for an increased donation for the water testing done in Tamworth. TCC has been paying \$900 for many years; GMCG is now asking for \$990 due to increased costs. Chele moved to authorize payment of \$990. Jeremy seconded, motion carried.

Received bill for annual dues from New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions. Nelson moved to authorize payment of \$250. Jeremy seconded, motion carried.

Selectboard – Nelson asked Emery when the Selectboard would be reviewing proposed budgets for 2023. Emery said it would be soon but the schedule hasn't been finalized. Emery reported that the town is still looking for a recreation coordinator. The maintenance position has been filled but now they need another person for the transfer station.

Easement Monitoring – Chele has handed the role of Easement Monitoring Coordinator over to Jeremy. She and the Administrative Assistant will help Jeremy get up to speed.

Public Education and Outreach: SPARCnet Salamander Census – The Administrative Assistant reported that the first two fall censuses have been completed. The third and final census will be done by Dexter Harding and the Brett School third-graders on Tuesday, October 11.

Groundwater Protection Ordinance Committee – Kit and Jeremy reported on the public hearing for the first draft of the ordinance. The committee has made revisions based on input received. A second public hearing is scheduled for October 25 at the town office.

Wetlands and Shorelands – Nelson reported that the consulting engineers working on the Shannon property on Great Hill Road have reported some issues with the remediation project on the eroding river bank. They have a list of things that need to be done.

Dylan asked about the emergency response vehicles she saw at the G3 store in Chocorua. Nelson and Emery said that the underground gasoline tanks are to be left in place but they need to be pumped out and maybe some other treatment.

Emery reported that a report of a possible wetlands violation on Davis Road (formerly Brewster Hill Road).

Managed Lands and Trails

Waterfowl Haven Mowing – Emery will check out the field to see if he can handle the mowing. Nelson knows of someone with a tracked machine who could possibly handle it if Emery can't do it. Dylan asked if a prescribed burn would be possible. Nelson will talk with the Fire Department about that.

Conservation Land

Perkins Easement – Nelson reported that the proposal submitted by Christine Filmore, Town Attorney, has been accepted by all parties. Ownership of the section of the easement still in possession of the Bearcamp Center will be transferred to Zero Mile Farm. This will require a subdivision of the Bearcamp Center lot, which is awaiting a survey by Paul King. The NH Attorney General's office says there is no further action necessary. Nelson moved that, because the sealed minutes of the non-public session of September's meeting dealt with the town's proposal and an agreement between parties has been reached, the non-public minutes can be unsealed. Kit seconded, motion carried.

Other Business

Eileen asked about the eastern and western fields owned by Lakes Region Conservation Trust and if the NH Fish and Game grants could cover mowing of the fields. That's something that would be up to LRCT. It would be worth asking them if they were aware of the grants. Further discussion about the issues with mowing due to wet areas, poor quality hay and the expense of mowing for hay.

More discussion about the proposed Groundwater Protection Ordinance, particularly the fairness to others if some land uses were exempted from the regulations.

Adjourn – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Eileen moved, Dylan seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.