

**Tamworth Conservation Commission**  
Draft Minutes – January 9, 2023, 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 7:00 pm. Commissioners present were Nelson O'Bryan, Charlie Townsend,, Jeremy Phillips, Dylan Alden and Kit Morgan. Commissioners absent: Eileen Shelly. Alternates present: Ned Beecher and Lucy Gatchell. Alternates absent: Chele Miller and Stephanie Doyle. Nelson appointed Ned and Lucy to fill the empty seats. Also present: Randall Dearborn, Planning Board; Kelly Goodson, Selectboard; Hailey Williams and Jill Emerson, Green Mountain Conservation Group (GMCG); and Linda Cook, resident.

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

**Administrative and Announcements** – none.

**GMCG Report on Water Quality Monitoring** – Hailey Williams and Jill Emerson presented the report. There are three monitoring stations in Tamworth. Water quality parameters have been monitored since as early as 2002. For the most part, parameters are within recommended standards. The Bearcamp River at Hubbard Bridge is showing a trend of increasing pH and decreasing dissolved oxygen. The Chocorua River at the village shows a trend of increasing conductivity, nitrates and chloride, which may be due to road salt. Jill discussed the alternative of using brine instead of granular salt. Leaky septic systems could also be a factor.

**Financial** – Charlie stated that the line items in the Selectboard's proposed annual budget differ from the TCC proposal, although the total amount is the same. He will talk with the Selectboard Office about that. He will also ask for a statement showing the 2022 legal fees expended from the Conservation Fund.

**TCC Membership** – The terms of Charlie and Kit (full Commissioners) and Lucy (Alternate) expire in March. Nelson moved that TCC recommend to the Selectboard that Charlie, Kit and Lucy be appointed to new three year terms. Jeremy seconded, motion carried. Nelson asked all members to recommend new candidates for Commissioner and /or Alternate. There is one open seat for full Commissioner and you can never have too many Alternates

**Planning Board** – Randall reported that one subdivision was approved in the past month. Still working on subdivision regulations. The Groundwater Protection Ordinance will be on the warrant in March. A copy of the proposed ordinance is on the town website.

**Selectboard** – Kelly reported that the Board is again advertising for a Transfer Station attendant. The new recreation director has started work. There are plans for a recreation calendar; TCC can have outdoor recreation events/opportunities posted on it. There is a one year term and a three year term for the Selectboard on the election slate for March.

**Public Education and Outreach**

**History Center Summer Exhibit** – Nelson reported that Chris Cline has offered to furnish a number of TCC items held by Cook Memorial Library. A TCC committee will be appointed at the February meeting

**Camp Sponsorships** – Dexter Harding (Tin Mountain Conservation Center) and Jeremy (Squam Lakes Natural Science Center) will report on available programs and costs.

**Groundwater Protection Ordinance** – Randall reported that the Planning Board intended to supply information about the proposed ordinance but not to actively promote it. Kit reported that the GWPO committee would have a display at the library and possibly at other events. Kelly reported that the Selectboard is looking for clarity concerning enforcement obligations.

## **Managed Lands and Trails**

**Page Hill Trail** – Kit reported that Deb Franchi and crew have cleared the trail of blowdowns and she plans to install a sign marking the trail.

**Big Pines Trail Relocation** – Nelson reported that he has put up “trail closed” signs to deter hikers from using or clearing the old route. A revised map has been uploaded to the TCC website.

**Trail Conditions** – We have had more storms. Let Nelson know if you encounter any blowdowns on TCC trails.

## **Conservation Land**

Nelson reported that Paul King has wrapped up the Perkins easement survey. The Aspinall survey has yet to be done.

## **Other Business**

Nelson reported that the Ossipee Mountain Land Company has applied to NH-DES for renewal of a permit to operate wood boilers. No action by TCC is necessary, but the application is available to anyone who wants to read it.

Discussion on using brine for winter road treatment. Kelly stated that the town would need to buy new equipment for applying brine. The question was raised about the number of miles of paved town roads in Tamworth [*later research shows 27.75 miles of pavement; that's 43.2% of all town roads.*]

**Adjourn** – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Ned moved, Jeremy seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

*Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.*