

Tamworth Conservation Commission
Draft Minutes – October 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 7:05 pm. Commissioners present were Nelson O'Bryan, Charlie Townsend, Teresa Fournier, Dylan Alden and Kit Morgan. Commissioners absent: Eileen Shelly and Jeremy Phillips. Alternates present: Lucy Gatchell. Alternates absent: Stephanie Doyle and Ned Beecher. Nelson appointed Lucy to fill an empty seat. Also present: Nick Grant, Planning Board; Richard Doucette, Select Board.

Approval of Minutes for 09/11/2023 – Charlie moved to accept the minutes with a correction in the spelling of David Govatski's name. Dylan seconded, motion carried.

Administrative and Announcements

Received copy of state Forestry permit-by-notification for logging Tax Map 406, Lots 56, 57 and 58. New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions annual meeting will be November 4th in Pembroke. Let Nelson know if you want to attend.

Financial – Charlie reported that he submitted the GMCC water testing bill for payment and he has submitted the proposed TCC 2024 budget to the Select Board.

Planning Board – Nick Grant reported that the Capital Improvement Plan has been submitted to the Select Board. The Board has contracted with professional planners to do a build-out analysis. The proposed revision to the subdivision regulations is being reviewed by attorneys. Nick also discussed the low availability of housing in New Hampshire.

Select Board – Richard Doucette reported that the Board is working on the 2024 budget and is back on weekly meetings. The proposed Transfer Station improvements are more expensive than originally estimated. If grant money can not be acquired, improvements will likely be limited to projects such as installing a weigh scale and rest room.

Easement Monitoring – It's time to get them done before the snow flies. Nelson will ask Chele Miller if she is interested in showing Teresa the easement(s) she has been monitoring.

Public Education and Outreach – Kit reported that there was a large crowd at New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau's outing for re-measuring the champion pine at Big Pines Natural Area. Lucy reported that the Cook Library summer reading program for next year will be featuring "Adventure." It could possibly tie in with TCC natural areas/hiking. Chris Conrod reported on the SPARCnet salamander census with the Brett School students. The final census of the year will be on October 21st.

Conservation Easements/Land Protection

Alt Consolidation – The attorneys are back from their vacations and dealing with the paperwork. TCC should be getting some documents from the Forest Society soon. The Select Board will need to sign them.

Aspinall Lot – Nelson will be meeting with the Planning Board concerning subdivision issues. There are two ways this could go. Lakes Region Conservation Trust will purchase the property if the building area is subdivided out. There is one interested potential buyer who might buy the property with a conservation easement on it.

Chocorua Park – Nelson sent the landowners a letter based on discussion at the last TCC meeting. He has not received a reply.

Managed Lands and Trails – Nelson reported that Scott Aspinall might be interested in mowing the Bearcamp Field. No one wants to touch the black locust in Waterfowl Haven. Dylan has only one blowdown to remove. Ossipee Valley Snowmobile Club is rebuilding the bridges around Great Hill Pond.

Other Business – Kit reported that he talked with Debra Franchi and she plans on putting up a trail sign for the Page Hill trail.

Adjourn – There being no other business brought before the Commission, Kit moved, Teresa seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Submitted by Chris Conrod, TCC Administrative Assistant.