

These minutes are draft until approved

___Approved

___Approved with changes

Effingham Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes January 2, 2012

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. There were no guests or members of the public.
2. Organizational Issues:
 - The minutes of the December 5 meeting were approved. There was no work session in December.
 - Dave Goulet presented the latest financial report. Members discussed items that needed to be updated to reflect actual expenditures and the proposed budget for 2012. Dave will present the updated report at February's meeting.
 - There were no interactions with town boards or other organizations to report.
 - Emelyn reported that the GMCG annual dinner will be held Saturday, January 21 at Lakeview Neuro Rehab from 4 to 7:30 p.m. Featured speaker will be Ben Kilham.
3. Water Issues: none
4. Open Space Issues:
 - ADA at LLP: Jack presented his findings after investigating whether ECC will be required or advised to meet provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) at the trail and bird watch platform in Larry Leavitt Preserve. He determined that the path is considered an Outdoor Recreation Access Route. Standards are easily met at the site. The trailway needs to be a minimum of three feet wide with a firmly packed surface and no obstacles more than two inches in height. Any such obstacles must be easily rolled over with a standard wheelchair. The path must have 80 inches of overhead clearance or better. Jack will look into driveway requirements from the State of New Hampshire and report later.
 - Intents to Cut: None.
 - Elm Tree winterization: Harry will find out if anything special needs to be done to reinforce the elm tree saplings against winter damage. He will prepare the trees as necessary based on what he finds out.
5. Education and Outreach:
 - Earth Day Poster Contest: Emelyn will contact the new principal at Effingham Elementary School about the annual children's poster contest. She advised the members to begin coming up with a theme for it.
 - ECC website: Members discussed progress on the town's website and ECC's participation in it. The commission has suspended its own efforts to set up a website pending the launch of one for the town as a whole with boards and commissions represented in their separate parts of it.
6. Other Business and Special Reports:
 - ECC membership letter: Emelyn will send the recruiting letter composed by herself, Jack and Tim to the Conway Daily Sun and the Carroll Country Independent as soon as the New Hampshire Primary is over.
 - ECC report for Town Annual Report: Tim delivered his draft for review by the meeting. The text was approved but the format will be changed to make it fit one page.
 - Taking Action for Wildlife 2011 Community Assistance Program: Nothing to report.

- Barnes/Brown Woodlot transfer: Harry recalls that the land in question includes two actual lots. Deed research will be needed to figure out what they really are and how they're divided.
 - There was no mail.
 - Jack will contact Fish and Game Officer Mark Hensel about possibly holding a public informational meeting in Effingham to give town residents an overview of Fish and Game operations and activities in town.
7. The next work session will be held Monday, January 16 at the Effingham Town Offices at 6:30 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, February 6 at the Effingham Town Offices at 6:30 p.m.
 8. Members present: Emelyn Albert (*Chair*); Dave Goulet (*Secretary*); Harry Libby; Tim White (*Recording Secretary*); Jack Williams (*Vice Chair*). Absent: Stephanie Barnes (*alt.*); Al Levesque (*alt.*); Steve Zalewski (*alt.*).
 9. The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim White, Recording Secretary

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