

These minutes are draft until approved

___Approved

___Approved with changes.

Effingham Conservation Commission Meeting minutes, March 4, 2013

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. There were no guests or members of the public.
2. Organizational Issues: The minutes of the February 4 meeting and February 18 work session were approved. There was no new financial report. There were no communications or interactions with other town boards and outside organizations.
3. Water Issues: ECC received a response from Carl Davis of Province Lake Association regarding the watershed study PLA is launching. He provided an overview of short- and long-term goals for Province Lake watershed planning, beginning with a two-year study to analyze the chemistry of the lake and conditions in the watershed. Building on those results a long-term plan would address the factors identified as contributing to deterioration of the lake, and educate landowners regarding best practices to maintain and improve water quality. Problems identified so far include cyanobacteria blooms late in the year and high phosphorous levels. PLA hopes to have joint planning meetings with their organization, ECC and the Board of Selectmen to guide the study and subsequent actions to maximum benefit for the town and its environment.
4. Open Space Issues:
 - LLP – Emelyn has finished the bird painting for the roadside sign. It still needs to be clear-coated in some way for protection from the elements.
 - LLP – A cleanup will need to be scheduled for spring. Also, Jack will obtain materials for the ADA-compliant picnic table for the preserve and proceed with construction.
 - Green Mountain picnic table – Jack is still pursuing possible involvement by Lakeview rehabilitation clients in construction of the replacement picnic table for the summit of Green Mountain. As a default, the table can be purchased from R&R as previously discussed.
 - Town lots designated Map 106, Lot 15 and Map 413, Lot 159 have been placed on the warrant for town meeting so voters can decide whether to place them with other lands under ECC stewardship.
5. Education and Outreach:
 - Town Meeting: In addition to the warrant article on the town lots above, a warrant has been added for voters to approve the expenditure of funds for the Province Lake Association Lake Host Program.
 - Earth Day Poster Contest: Emelyn has devised this year's theme, "Helping Hands Help the Earth." She has contacted Effingham Elementary School so classes can plan for their submissions of student art.
 - Roadside cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 27. The format will be as usual: meet in the morning for road assignments or clean independently on sections KELF members typically do on their own. Lunch served mid-day to participants. Bags will be collected and taken to the Transfer Station by cleanup administrators or volunteers.
 - ECC website – Emelyn continues to work with Theresa Swanick and Barbara Thompson to determine what can be salvaged from the old ECC website and reloaded onto the new one.
6. Other Business and Special Reports:

- Mark Hensel – Jack continues to act as liaison with C.O. Mark Hensel regarding an informational presentation to be held at the library at a date and time to be determined.

The next work session will be held Monday, March 18 at the municipal offices, School Street, at 6:30 p.m. The next regular meeting of ECC will be held Monday, April 8 at the municipal offices, School Street, at 6:30 p.m. The public is welcome. Go ahead. Surprise us.

Attendance – Members present: Emelyn Albert (*Chair*); Dave Goulet (*Secretary*); Harry Libby; Tim White (*Recording Secretary*); Jack Williams (*Vice Chair*); Virginia Wrabel. Absent: Steph Barnes (*alt.*); Al Levesque (*alt.*); Steve Zalewski (*alt.*)

The meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim White, Recording Secretary

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