

These minutes are draft until approved

___Approved

___Approved with changes.

Effingham Conservation Commission Meeting minutes, February 3, 2014

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 January 13 meeting were approved.
 - The financial report reflected no changes from the previous month.
3. Open Space Issues:
 - LLP – Bird painting on sign warped. Between this and attempts to straighten it, the wood was damaged. Emelyn and Jack will produce a replacement on laminated material better suited to exposure to the weather.
4. Education and Outreach:
 - ECC Brochure – Emelyn presented several brochures she had gathered from conservation commissions in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Members discussed ideas they thought would be good to incorporate into a new ECC brochure. Some ideas seemed suitable for the website as well. Emelyn will send links to the Dudley, Mass., and Campton, N.H., brochures for further study.
 - Earth Day Poster Contest – Emelyn needs a theme for this year’s poster contest for the elementary school students. Al proposed something about trees. I can’t quite recall the introductory pun, but it actually turned into a usable idea. Good going, Al!
 - ECC website saga – Jack presented the materials he had salvaged from the old ECC website. Members discussed items to discard, retain and expand. Al and Jack will talk with Barbara Thompson and Theresa Swanick regarding what will fit and how it should be formatted.
5. Other Business and Special Reports:
 - Emelyn presented a report from the meeting of the Province Lake Watershed Plan committee, which she attended on January 14. The report provided an overview of some critical qualities of the lake, such as its rate of water renewal and tendency to retain phosphorous. The report summarized the history of testing – or lack thereof until 1992 – and some information on pollution sources and unexpected influences on water quality, such as boat engines. It highlighted the challenges Province Lake faces because it is so shallow.
6. Mail:
 - ECC received the latest edition of *New Hampshire Planning and Land Use Regulation*.
 - Mail also included a thank you note from GMCG for Effingham’s \$500 contribution toward the \$7,407.00 expense of water quality monitoring on behalf of the town. The town increased the contribution to \$550 this year because water is so darn important.

There will be no work session for February. The next regular meeting will be held Monday, March 3, at the municipal offices, School Street, at 6:30 p.m.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim White, Recording Secretary

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