

These minutes are draft until approved

___Approved

___Approved with changes.

Effingham Conservation Commission Meeting minutes, January 5, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6:44 p.m. There were no guests or members of the public.

Organizational Issues:

- The minutes of the December 1 meeting were approved.
- Chair reported on presentation by Nicholas Coates of NHACC at the December meeting. Coates described NHACC's role in supporting conservation commissions statewide, particularly in preventing efforts to pass legislation to do away with them altogether.
- Financial Report: The remaining balance from the 2014 budget was \$84.31 on Dec. 31, from a budget of \$3,500.00. The ECC conservation fund balance was \$14,637.
- Communications, Interactions with other town boards: The Planning Board will hold a hearing on Monday, January 19 at the town offices, School Street, at 7 p.m. to discuss amendments to the zoning ordinance. In addition to routine editing, the board is proposing changes to the percentage of lot coverage allowed on small lots, associated waivers of setback requirements and a formalized definition of impervious surfaces.
- An all-boards meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 20 at the town offices, School Street, at 7 p.m. to discuss better coordination between boards and officials when citizens seek permit approvals, information, and schedule hearings.
- Chair will go before the budget committee to present the 2015 budget request for \$3,580.00, and ask for a slight increase of \$42 to cover the increase in dues to join NHACC. So actual request total is \$3,622.00

Water Issues: None.

Land Issues – LLP/Boat Ramp:

- Members discussed more ideas for land-related projects in 2015. Items mostly consist of signage and birdhouses.
- Watts Preserve – walkway project declared officially complete.

Education and Outreach: Members asked to come up with ideas for e Earth Day Poster Contest.

Other Business and Special Reports:

- Members discussed issues related to commercial water extraction and the process necessary to establish an article in the zoning ordinance to guide any such activities.
- ECC received invoice for membership in NHACC.
- Members discussed a request from Sheila Jones for a letter of support for a 2015 warrant article to bring the back building of the municipal offices up to ADA access standards. Consensus was that the town was legally required to do this anyway, as a public building.
- Chair announced the ECC portion of the town website is now ready for admiration. ECC thanks everyone for their contributions.

- Claudia has made a request to the Trustees of the Trust Funds to reimburse ECC from the Aquatic Invasive Plant Fund for milfoil cleanup expenses.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, February 2, at the municipal offices, School Street, at 6:30 p.m.

Members present: Emelyn Albert (*Chair*); Al Levesque; Harry Libby; Tim White (*Recording Secretary*); Jack Williams (*Vice Chair/Treasurer*); Virginia Wrabel. Absent: Dave Goulet (*Prodigal Member*); Bill Wrabel (*alt.*)

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim White, Recording Secretary

These minutes are draft until approved