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___Approved

___Approved with changes.

Effingham Conservation Commission Meeting minutes, July 6, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. Darayl Remick attended as a guest. He discussed his intention to place an 80-acre tract, Map 107, Lot 1, into conservation, possibly by donating it to ECC. It's in the exploratory stage right now, with several possible courses under consideration. Darayl will update the commission as plans take shape. ECC members are welcome to walk the lot at any time.

Organizational Issues:

- The minutes of the June 1 meeting were approved.
- Financial Report: ECC issued the annual check for \$1,000.00 to the Province Lake Association for the Lake Host Program. This leaves a balance of \$1,894.00 in the 2015 budget.

Water Issues:

- Emelyn saw milfoil at the Route 153 boat ramp while she was trimming and weeding around the picnic table in June. She will inform the usual interested parties to inspect the site and begin planning for the annual removal procedures.
- DES copied ECC with an FYI regarding an unacceptable application for a project in the Shoreland Protection area of Province Lake. The application from Roger Lacasse, 36 Remick Road, was rejected for lack of supporting material.

Land Issues – LLP/Boat Ramp:

- Emelyn trimmed around the recently planted seedlings at the Route 153 boat ramp.
- Members discussed options for conservation land signage, based on samples Emelyn had rounded up. The best option for clarity and durability seems to be routed lettering on composite material in an appropriate color. Jack will research sources.
- Intents to cuttin': we got nuttin'.

Education and Outreach: The commission neither educated nor reached in the last month. We promise to do better at the next opportunity.

Other Business and Special Reports:

- Next scheduled expenditure from ECC's budget will be \$550.00 to GMCG for water quality testing.
- ECC discussed at length a GMCG application to DES for a minor dredge and fill permit. GMCG wants to create an artificial vernal pool in an existing wetland on the property of Heron House, their new headquarters facility. GMCG's representative submitted the application for the town clerk's signature before submitting it to ECC for review, thus

rendering that review irrelevant and putting the application on track for regular, rather than expedited, review. Commission members were not entirely comfortable with the project and had been disinclined to sign off on expedited consideration anyway, given the magnitude of what is requested regarding the natural environment of the property. Being pressed for time and placed in a position in which signing off on the application would have essentially falsified the date of their approval was not a step they wished to take.

- Claudia informed Emelyn that Lake Shore Drive is a private road. ECC's preliminary consideration of a short nature trail on a conservation property at the end of Lake Shore Drive depends on providing some sort of minimal parking. Access to that would be up to James Steltenpohl (Map 106/Lot 3). Emelyn has met him and is has opened the discussion.
- Lakes Region Hazardous Waste Collection Day is Saturday, August 1, at the Ossipee Town Highway Garage from 8:30 a.m. to noon.
- Al mentioned that a 14 acre parcel on Pine River Road, with long frontage on Pine River, has had its price reduced to \$50,000.00. While this is still pretty steep, it may put the land within reach of purchase through a grant, providing another conservation asset to the town and a recreational opportunity for residents and visitors.
- Mason Conservation Commission had sent a letter requesting ECC provide a written objection to a pipeline project in their area. Members decided to decline that request at this time.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, August 3, 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 (*alt*); Bill Wrabel (*alt.*)

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim White, Recording Secretary

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