

These minutes are draft until approved

\_\_\_Approved

\_\_\_Approved with changes.

## Effingham Conservation Commission Meeting minutes, September 14, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6:43 p.m. There were no guests or members of the public.

### Organizational Issues:

- The meeting minutes for August 3 were approved with corrections. Humor was refined to suit intended audience.
- Financial Report: Jack reported that \$945 has been expended on milfoil control efforts so far. Balance remaining in the 2015 budget is \$1244.54. The ECC fund contains \$15,525. The capital reserve fund for invasive plant control has \$11,800.00, from which the expenditure of the \$945.00 will leave \$10,855.00

### Water Issues:

- Milfoil – Kayaker Mike St. Hilaire reported extensive milfoil in a cove of Berry Bay. Survey by Cliff Cabral of New England Milfoil revealed it is the largest infestation in Effingham waters, with about an acre of milfoil in a cove measuring 3-5 water acres. This late in the season, Cliff said the best option is hand harvesting to get as far ahead of it as possible. Permits for chemical treatment would take too long to get, and the process can be controversial. Members voted to have New England Milfoil do the harvesting. Cliff estimated it would take a week for his crew and cost \$4,200.00 on top of the \$945.00 already expended. Roberta McCarthy of the Berry Bay Association said she would put together a group to gather whatever escaped strands they could find along the shoreline. ECC will contact Bill Klotz of Farm by the River to see if he can accommodate that much milfoil in his compost.

### Land Issues:

- Emelyn, Jack and Al walked the Remick property on Remick Road, that Darayl Remick has proposed as possible conservation land for the town. The property has extensive wetlands, as well as forested upland and some lakefront.
- ECC representatives received word that two loon chicks hatched successfully on lake frontage of property in the Remick tract.
- Conservation property signage: Jack Explained options for materials. Consensus seems to lean toward routed urethane signs for longevity, mounted to 4”X4” pressure-treated posts. Only a couple of conservation lots have road frontage, so this is not an extensive project.
- Lot 28 Pine River Road: Members discussed possible acquisition of a lot on Pine River Road offering Pine River access. The price has been reduced and the land owner seems amenable to an arrangement. Members discussed steps to make an offer and details ECC would need to act on behalf of the town in seeking a grant and purchasing the property. Emelyn contacted Nicholas Coates of the NHACC, who suggested a grant writer

NHACC uses. In preliminary contact, the grant writer said that some sources come to mind immediately, and that more can be investigated. He charges \$65 an hour for grant writing services.

Education and Outreach:

- GMCG newsletter: Tim will produce a press release for ECC's report in the next GMCG newsletter.

Other Business and Special Reports:

- Chair requested release of the \$945.00 for the first round of milfoil removal, and the payment of Effingham's contribution to GMCG for water quality monitoring.

Mail: ECC received notification from DES regarding a shoreland impact permit for activities on the lakefront side of Remick Road.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, October 5, 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 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim White, Recording Secretary

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