

These minutes are draft until approved

___Approved

___Approved with changes.

Effingham Conservation Commission Meeting minutes, December 7, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Organizational Issues:

- The minutes of the October meeting were approved. There was no meeting in November because of lack of a quorum.
- Financial Report: \$1,244.54 remains in the 2015 budget. The ECC fund balance is \$15,525.00. The aquatic plant fund has \$5,010.00 in it
- Communications, Interactions with other town boards: Emelyn presented the 2016 budget request to the budget committee. Emelyn and Jack went to the BOS regarding the plan to purchase the lot on Pine River Road (Map 413, Lot 160).

ECC Goals and Schedules: Pine River Lot acquisition.

Water Issues:

- Milfoil in Marist Cove: New England Milfoil worked in Marist Cove on Oct. 26 and 27. Chair and Vice Chair attended a meeting of the Berry Bay Association on Oct. 10 to thank the approximately 15 volunteers who went out in canoes and kayaks to pick up escaped milfoil fragments at the previous harvest. The volunteers were out again on October 26-27.

Land Issues – LLP/Boat Ramp:

- Pine River Lot: Final purchase and sale agreement was signed on Oct. 20. Agreed price is \$39,000.00. Information was sent to NHACC on Oct. 23 to begin looking for grants. Contract with NHACC for grant writing was signed on Nov. 30. Grant writer has recommended that ECC make an investment from commission funds. Members discussed sources in addition to a withdrawal from the ECC fund, to reach a total of \$5,000.00. Jack is looking into Internet crowdfunding through GoFundMe. Members also agreed to have Emelyn approach GMCG to act as agent for the grant, because they have 501c3 status. ECC will be responsible for other expenses related to the acquisition, such as grant writing costs and other fees.
- Chair and Vice Chair walked along Molly Philbrick Road in October to check on town efforts to correct problems reported by Tom Thompson. They noted that most problems had been corrected and that other corrective actions were scheduled for the spring of 2016.

Education and Outreach:

- The state is offering two workshops on the Wildlife Action Plan this winter, Jan. 14 in Concord and Feb. 17 in Portsmouth. Members engaged in some throat clearing and paper shuffling. Someone will probably go. I have to work.
- Al saw a blue spotted salamander. Though NH Fish and Game reports their population as secure, it's still a great find.

Other Business and Special Reports:

- Chair wrote a letter of support for GMCG for a DES Source Water Protection Grant of \$20,000.00.
- Tim will write the ECC submission for the Town annual report. Emelyn said she would email a synopsis of the featured points.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, Jan. 4, 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*). Absent: Virginia Wrabel; Dave Goulet (*alt*); Bill Wrabel (*alt*.)

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim White, Recording Secretary

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