

These minutes are draft until approved

___Approved

___Approved with changes.

Effingham Conservation Commission Meeting minutes, February, 6, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. There were no guests or members of the public. Now there's a shocker.

Organizational Issues:

- The minutes of the January 2 meeting were approved.
- Financial Report: The balance stands at \$3,796.00, pending approval at Town Meeting. The conservation fund balance is \$7,426.00 after the release of \$10,000.00 for the purchase of the new conservation property o Pine River Road. The account earned 43 cents interest during the statement period.

Water Issues: None

Land Issues:

- Pine River Road conservation lot: The grants from the Fields Pond Foundation, the Royal Little Family Foundation, \$10,000.00 from the Conservation Fund, and an anonymous donation of \$5,000.00 were deposited into the account held by GMCG as the 501(c)(3) agent in the purchase of the parcel designated on Tax Map 413, as Lot 160. This brought the total to \$40,000.00 for the purchase and expenses.

Chair and Vice Chair performed the deed research at the Carroll County Registry. Map 413, Lot 160 was subdivided form a larger parcel in the 1980s. It had passed in and out of the ownership of Raymond "Bodie" van Tassel, who was recorded as the owner in 1974.

The Town Attorney advised that the ECC must hold a public hearing prior to closing, in accordance with RSA 36-A:4-a, I(b). The hearing is scheduled for Monday, February 13, at the Town Offices, 68 School Street, at noon. Notice was published in the Conway Sun and posted at the Town Offices and the Library.

Town Attorney Matt Serge was scheduled to send the new deed to the commission for review. It will then be sent to the current owner of the Pine River Road lot, Mr. Cherubini. When it is returned to the commission, a representative of the commission and the real estate agent will take it to the registry to be recorded.

GMCG will release a check for \$35,100.00 to Mr. Cherubini and one for \$3,900.00 to Maxfield Real Estate. Copies of the deed will be sent to the town attorney, Lynne Butler, the Town of Effingham, and ECC.

- ECC members are now considering the best ways to create public access to this attractive site. Included in this, the commission will seek right of way access over the adjoining lot for a trail.

Education and Outreach:

- Earth Day Poster Contest: Effingham Elementary School has a new principal, Pat Morrissey. With her approval, the commission will hold its annual poster contest for the students. The chair has suggested that the theme this year focus on some aspect of water.
- Town meeting: Because the commission always has an educational display at the meeting, the chair has suggested that it promote the state Wildlife Action Plan. GMCG will be hosting a meeting at an unspecified date in April at Runnels Hall in Chocorua. NH Fish and Game has released some updated maps and other materials.
- GMCG's Annual Meeting will be held Saturday, March 4, at Hobbs Tavern and Brewery, West Ossipee, beginning at 5:30 p.m. The presentation will feature bobcats. The speaker is Rory Carroll.

Other Business and Special Reports: None

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, March 6, 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; Kamal Nath (*alt.*). Absent: Bill Wrabel (*alt.*); Dave Goulet (*alt.*)

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim White, Recording Secretary

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