

These minutes are draft until approved

\_\_\_Approved

\_\_\_Approved with changes.

## Effingham Conservation Commission Meeting minutes, August 7, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:41 p.m. There were no guests or members of the public.

### Organizational Issues:

- The minutes of the July 10 meeting were approved.
- Financial Report: The payment of \$750 for water quality monitoring was released to Green Mountain Conservation Group. The remaining \$2,190.00 in grant funds from the PRCP fundraiser were transferred to the ECC account, as well as \$2,500.00 in current use change tax money due from 2016. The balance in the ECC fund is \$9,136.57. The remaining balance in the 2017 budget is \$3,476.97.
- Jack submitted a bill for materials for the PRCP sign. Members agreed that even if he does not want payment for labor, it should be included as an in-kind donation for grant writing purposes.

### Water Issues:

- Cliff Cabral conducted an extensive survey of Marist Cove on July 12. The total harvest was only 5 gallons, supporting the ECC decision not to buy in on the state program of chemical treatment this year. Members looked at Cliff's photo map of the survey area with his report on the operation.
- Chair and Mary Lord plan to kayak on the Ossipee River to assess the milfoil situation there.

### Land Issues:

- PRCP: Jack, Al, and Ralph Goodreau installed the sign. Chair has heard positive reactions from viewers. ECC appreciates the efforts of everyone who contributed to the creation and installation.
- Emelyn and Jack discovered that Bella Terra Trail Design (Andrew Lester and crew) had made a lot of progress on the trail. Conditions look good for a grand opening on Saturday, Aug. 26, (rain date Sunday, Aug. 27). Honored guests would include the Cherubinis, the Littles, Claudia Lamphier, Blair Folts, Lynn Butler, Cindy and Joe Daigle, DJ from the Bait Shop – yes, that's his official name – Ralph and Nancy Goodreau, and any members ECC and other town boards. Of course the public is welcome as well. There will be some form of ribbon cutting ceremony, a trail walk to the river, and snacks. The event will begin at the PRCP sign at 2 p.m.

### Education and Outreach:

- Following up on Al's suggestion, Chair has compiled a list of activities in Effingham and is working on a map.
- A Wildlife Action Plan information session is scheduled for the regular ECC meeting on Oct. 2. Kamal has acted as liaison on this to County Forester Wendy Scribner and Barbara Richter of NHACC. Their presentation will lead off the meeting. Focus will be on public lands and at-risk (privately held) parcels. Kamal will contact Wendy to determine if anything

needs to be added to the 2018 budget request for wildlife support and habitat enhancement initiatives.

Other Business and Special Reports:

- 2018 Budget: The Budget Committee has called for next year's budget requests to be submitted by Monday, Aug. 28. Members went over last year's budget and made a few changes for 2018, expecting some land management and improvement expenditures for the PRCP.
- Al reported that the capped landfill on Snow Road – replaced by the Transfer Station – was mowed, and that the mowing contractor suggested letting the public know in advance next year, so that they can harvest the lush crop of blueberries that has established itself there. Later mowing is also much better for wildlife. Chair planned to mention it to the Board of Selectmen.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, Sept. 11, at the municipal offices, School Street, at 6:30 p.m.

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

The meeting adjourned at somewhere in the neighborhood of 8 p.m. Does it really matter?

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim White, Recording Secretary

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