

These minutes are draft until approved

___Approved

___Approved with changes.

Effingham Conservation Commission Meeting minutes, May 7, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 6:50 p.m. there were no guests or members of the public.

Organizational Issues:

- The minutes of the April 2 meeting were approved.
- Financial Report: The commission expended \$130 of its budget on the roadside cleanup, and \$50 to purchase prizes for the elementary school Earth Day poster contest. This leaves \$3,550 in the 2018 budget allocation.

Water Issues:

- Ossipee Lake Alliance has not reported back yet on how the three-town coordination of the Lake Host Program is progressing. They will hold an update meeting on May 18.

Land Issues:

- PRCP: Bridges still have not been installed. Jack will check in with Andrew Lester at Bella Terra Trail Design to get an update on completion.
- LLP: A lot of large trees came down during the winter, and a lot of brush needs to be cleared. There will be a workday on Tuesday, May 22, at 9:30 a.m., to clear as much of the debris as possible. Harry reported that the wood on the observation platform appears to be deteriorating as well.

Education and Outreach:

- Roadside Cleanup: The bag count was 162 this year, down from last year's whopping 203. This included 23 bags collected by the Deans on Molly Philbrick Road the following day. There were 30 roadside cleaners and 18 guests for the barbecue lunch. Several of the grabbers belonging to the commission have disappeared. On a motion by Jack, seconded by Kamal, members approved the acquisition of eight new ones. One will be purchased by a volunteer for his own independent litter monitoring activities. Two will augment the supply that volunteers can check out from the library. The rest will replace other losses in the ECC fleet.
- Kamal suggested setting the date for the roadside cleanup for the last Saturday in April, regardless of when Earth Day falls. Because of persistent snow and ice, volunteers could not get to everything they saw along the roads this year. This has also been a problem in some previous years. After discussion, Kamal advanced a motion to set the date, seconded by Emelyn. The motion carried unanimously.
- WAP presentations: There has been no further activity to schedule speakers from the Wildlife Action Plan.
- Earth Day Poster Contest: Members judged the entries in the Earth Day Poster Contest at Effingham Elementary School. Submissions were a little disorganized this year.

Other Business and Special Reports:

- The Effingham Preservation Society has scheduled its street fair for Saturday, June 23.
- Harry reported that he expects to miss the next two meetings due to hip replacement surgery. The other members wish him well.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, June 4, at the municipal offices, School Street, at 6:30 p.m.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim White, Recording Secretary

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