

These minutes are draft until approved

___Approved

___Approved with changes.

Effingham Conservation Commission Meeting minutes, September 10, 2018

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

Organizational Issues:

- The minutes of the Aug. 6 meeting were approved.
- Financial Report: \$1,376.00 remains in the 2018 budget. The ECC fund has \$12,225.00. The Aquatic Invasive Plant Capital Reserve Fund has a balance of \$15,068.84, pending an invoice from New England Milfoil for inspection and harvesting in Effingham's portion of Ossipee Lake and Ossipee River.

Water Issues:

- On Aug. 15, Al, Virginia, and Emelyn performed field observations on culverts rated the worst in the 2008 study. Emelyn compiled the forms and photos, and wrote a summary that was presented to the Board of Selectmen on Aug 21.
- Cliff Cabral and New England Milfoil surveyed Effingham's part of Ossipee Lake on Aug. 3. They found so little milfoil that they were able to pull it that day, rather than scheduling a return trip. On Aug. 17, they surveyed Effingham's part of the Ossipee River, from the Route 153 bridge down to the boat ramp just below Route 25. They found enough milfoil there to warrant scheduling a day of harvesting, but not a large infestation. This part of the river has not been inspected in a few years, so the results are good.

Land Issues:

- PRCP trail bridges: Jack sent a message to Andrew Lester of Bella Terra Trail Design to ask for the latest estimate on completion of the bridges on the trail to the river through PRCP. Andrew replied to Emelyn, stating that he would be moving his equipment from his job site in Wolfeboro and would install the bridges in the second week of September...which has arrived. As of the meeting on Monday, Sept. 10, he had not arrived. But the week is young, and starting off wet.

Education and Outreach:

- Wildlife Action Plan (WAP): Kamal presented his latest findings regarding the live animal presentation proposed for next summer's street fair at Drake's Corner. He had sent out information provided to him by the Center for Wildlife in Cape Neddick, Maine, and the Squam Lakes Science Center in Holderness, NH. As a result of his communication with possible venues in Effingham and with the providers themselves, he suggested narrowing the selection to Squam Lakes Science Center because the Masonic Lodge had offered the use of their space in the Effingham Public Library building – the old town hall – and they were supportive of the SLSC. Kamal proposed that the center's offerings were ample from which to select. Members selected first, second, and third choices from the program menu. Kamal suggested coordinating with GMCG, the

Historical Society, and any other town and regional groups to increase publicity and reduce conflicting scheduled events. Tentatively the presentation is scheduled for Saturday, June 22, at the Effingham Public Library at 11 a.m. Kamal moved and Jack seconded to approved the projected expenditure of approximately \$350.00 for program cost and related expenses. The choices in order were “Creatures of the Night,” Animals with Bad Reputations,” and “Why do Animals Do That?”

- Also as part of the educational component of WAP, members had been discussing having NH Fish and Game provide a presentation on brook trout just prior to the start of fishing season in 2019. Because Fish and Game requires four months lead time, the project had been on hold. Kamal is now moving forward so that ECC can make the scheduling request in late December. Kamal moved and Jack seconded the motion to have the presentation on the third Friday in April, 2019, at the library. There will be no cost to the town.
- Trail log books: Because jurisdiction on Green Mountain is a little complicated, ECC will not pursue the placement of hiker log books on the summit or any of the trails to it. However, the commission can place them at the LLP and PRCP. Jack presented a sketch for the design of a sheltering box that can be mounted on a post at PRCP and attached to the kiosk at LLP for visitors to write their entries.
- Effingham Elementary School third graders who attended the Ferry Beach Environmental School sent a note of thanks and some photos to the commission. The group photo will be added to ECC’s portion of the town website.

Other Business and Special Reports:

- Emelyn filled out ECC’s application for the NHACC Outstanding Achievement Award. Tim proofread it and made a couple of editorial corrections. It was sent in on Aug. 20.
- Members held the first preliminary discussions of the 2019 budget.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, Oct. 1, at the municipal offices, School Street, at 6:30 p.m.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m., Effingham Daylight Time.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim White, Recording Secretary

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