

These minutes are draft until approved

___Approved

___Approved with changes.

Effingham Conservation Commission Meeting minutes, Dec. 3, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 6:42 p.m.

Organizational Issues:

- The minutes of the Oct. 1 and Nov. 5 meetings were approved.
- Financial Report – Against the 2018 budget of \$4,000.00, the commission expended \$5,159.40. The apparent deficit was created by expenses already budgeted for work in the PRCP. Because the funds included appropriations from 2017, the leftover money from 2017 had already been transferred into the Conservation Fund. Thus, the previous year's surplus was finally used for its budgeted purpose when the invoices for trail building were submitted in 2018.
- Because AI has left for the winter, ECC has to adjust the quorum requirements to make sure that no productive time is lost to the technicality of insufficient attendance. See below.

Water Issues: None

Land Issues:

- Jack took down the deteriorated sign from the PRCP and made a new, improved version. Emelyn will paint a new heron on it this winter. The sign will be reinstalled in the spring.

Education and Outreach:

- Audrey Eisenhower of the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center informed Kamal on Nov. 9 that she would send an invoice and confirmation for the live animal presentation scheduled for next June. The documentation has not arrived, but Kamal received additional assurances on November 19 that the date has been saved.
- The library has signed on as a cosponsor for the SLNSC presentation and the spring program on brook trout. GMCG signed on for the trout presentation. The Preservation Society signed on for the SLNSC presentation. UNH Cooperative Extension has signed on for both. This means that all of those organizations will be helping to promote the event to their contact lists.
- Wendy Scribner and Kamal discussed the interpretive trail in PRCP. Wendy will make four visits in 2019: early spring, late spring, summer, and fall, to document points of interest. Jack has devised plant markers to install as species are identified and located.
- Kamal is going to a workshop on "Actions for Wildlife in a Changing Climate," on Friday, Dec. 7, at Lakes Region Community College in Laconia. The workshop lasts all day.

Other Business and Special Reports:

- In addition to needing to change the ECC bylaws to reflect seasonal membership changes, a full review of the bylaws is overdue. During the next few months, the commission will be updating the bylaws to reflect changes in RSAs and other factors.
- Kamal has sent a letter to Steve Hamilton of the NH Department of Revenue Administration regarding a letter that Mr. Hamilton sent to NHACC that appeared to state that the transfer of unexpended monies from one year's budget could only be made to a town's conservation fund by a warrant article at every year's town meeting. Because DRA has not communicated directly with every CC in the state – or any of them, as far as we know – ECC wishes to know whether the system approved by the voters at the Effingham town meeting in 1977, and functioning seamlessly through the present day, is sufficient to meet any requirements by the state.
- Chair presented the NHACC Outstanding Achievement award to the BOS. It is currently on display in the BOS office. Lacking an official trophy case for the town, Kamal suggests that its permanent home be the library.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, Jan. 7, 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(*alt.*); Bill Wrabel (*alt.*)

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim White, Recording Secretary

These minutes are draft until approved