

These minutes are draft until approved

___Approved

___Approved with changes.

Effingham Conservation Commission Meeting minutes, November 1, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:53 p.m., after lengthy conversation about trees. There were no guests or members of the public.

Organizational Issues:

- The minutes of the Oct. 4, 2021 meeting were approved.
- Financial Report: With no expenditures in the past month, the remaining balance in the 2021 budget allotment is \$1,521.00 after \$3,934.00 has been expended in the course of the year to date.
- Steve Jarecki informed Chair of his intention to become a full member of ECC. The secret rituals of induction will be scheduled soon. ECC welcomes his participation.

Water Issues:

- Milfoil: Chair contacted Cliff Cabral of New England Milfoil, who reported that his team had only found a couple of plants to remove during this year's survey of Effingham waters in Ossipee Lake's bay system, and along the Ossipee River. He called Effingham's efforts over the past 11 years, "a real success story." He did not find any plants this year at the Route 153 boat ramp beside the Route 25 bridge, which was where milfoil was first discovered in town. The cost for this year is \$1,210.00 for 8 hours of surveying and 2 hours of harvesting.

Land Issues:

- PRCP Trail Expansion: Andrew Lester/Bella Terra Trails has been delayed by weather and lack of personnel. He reported that he will continue in 2022. Tim reported on Bella Terra's major project in Wolfeboro, which is demanding the company's full resources to meet an ambitious deadline set by the funder of that project.

Education and Outreach:

- Kamal reported that Wendy Scribner will do the presentation on the History of Wildlife for ECC's spring program, but that details won't be worked out until after the first of the year.

Other Business and Special Reports:

- Meena LLC gas station update: Attorneys for GMCG, OLA, and two abutters filed a petition with the Superior Court, asking that it reverse the decision of the Effingham ZBA to approve the reinstatement of gasoline service at the store formerly known as Boyle's Market. The Planning Board will take up site plan review at the meeting on Thursday, Nov. 4. Tim reported on the process in general and on the specifics of this case, which departed from the norm in several elements as the applicants were pursuing their project.

- The ECC budget request for 2022 was passed by the BOS and the Budget Committee. The request for \$3,805.00 will be presented to the voters at Town Meeting for final approval. The reduction from the previous years was made possible by separating the funds for the PLA Lake Host Program, which will be administered through a different town account.
- Registration deadline for the NHACC annual meeting and conference is Thursday, Nov. 4. The conference will be presented on Zoom on Saturday, Nov. 6. Participants may choose any two workshops from a menu of six offerings. Cost is \$35.00. Complete information is available on the NHACC website.
- Chair reported that Diane has said that the conversion of town street lighting to LEDs remains under consideration.

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim White, Recording Secretary

These minutes are draft until approved