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___Approved with changes.

Effingham Conservation Commission Meeting minutes, November 7, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. There were no guests or members of the public.

Organizational Issues:

- The minutes of the Oct. 3, 2022 meeting were approved.
- Financial Report: There was \$2,097.52 remaining in the 2022 budget allotment. The balance in the ECC Fund was \$11,175.66 pending the inclusion of \$1,437.06 from last year's budget surplus, which would bring the total to \$12,612.72. The Invasive Plant Fund balance was \$16,342.65.

Water Issues:

- Meena Site Plan Review: The Planning Board has continued the hearing to Jan. 5, 2023, pending results of an application to the ZBA by GMCG and abutters, to overturn the Planning Board's decision not to require a special use permit for the proposed gas station. There is an action before the Superior Court as well. Tim gave a quick summary of the situation.
- **MILFOILLLL**: After reports from the field of heavy milfoil growth in Leavitt Brook, an exploratory team from ECC tried to survey the area, and New England Milfoil was dispatched to root out the enemy. NE Milfoil reported a partial harvest of 380 gallons of milfoil (Visualize 76 five-gallon buckets, as calculated by Diane), but low water after the seasonal draw-down of the lake has prevented further effective removal. NE Milfoil will return in the late spring of 2023, and survey Ossipee River at the same time.

Land Issues:

- Chair has attempted to contact Andrew Lester regarding the completion of the trails he laid out for ECC and the town in the PRCP. He has not responded yet. Chair will continue emailing.

Education and Outreach:

- Kamal reported on arrangements with Squam Lakes Natural Science Center for a presentation of their program on Animals with Bad Reputations, to be held on Saturday, Aug. 12, 2023 in conjunction with the Effingham Preservation Society Street Fair. Fair hours have changed, so ECC will schedule the presentation for 1 p.m. in the Historical Society building, rather than 1:30 as had been previously reported.
- Chair suggested that ECC start researching programs to put on in early spring, March or April, adding to the offerings already presented from Fish and Game informative sessions in previous years. Kamal will investigate.

Other Business and Special Reports:

- Budget Committee: Emelyn and Jack attended the Budget Committee meeting on Oct. 25, at which the 2023 budget for ECC was approved for the town warrant.
- Speaking of the town warrant: Members discussed at length the issues related to presenting an article for the warrant requesting that the ECC share of the current use change tax be increased in some way, either by percentage transferred, or raising the cap

imposed in 2005, or both. Tim will draft an article working from language provided by Audrey Frazier. This draft will be voted on at the Dec. 5 meeting.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, Dec. 5, at the municipal offices, School Street, at 6:30 p.m.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim White, Recording Secretary

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