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\_\_\_Approved with changes.

## Effingham Conservation Commission Meeting minutes, April 3,2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. Anya Bartoswicz attended as a guest.

### Organizational Issues:

- The minutes of the March 6, 2023 meeting were approved.
- Financial Report: With no expenditures from the 2023 budget yet this year, the balance stands at \$4,355.00. The conservation fund balance is \$16,970.71. The invasive plant fund balance is \$13,657.65. Town Treasurer Elaine Chick has suggested putting the ECC fund into a money market account to earn a microscopically greater amount of interest. No decision was reached, but the idea was not dismissed.

### Water Issues:

- According to reporting, the stay imposed by the Superior Court on the proceedings with the Meena LLC gas station proposal at the former Boyle' Market site has been lifted, and the process with the Planning Board can now resume.

### Land Issues:

- Chair spoke with Selectman Lenny Espie on March 28 regarding cleanup of storm debris at the LLP. On March 30, chair noticed an excavator, dump truck, and a group of people including Lenny Espie at LLP. They had observed that the major obstacle to cleanup was a tree uprooted and leaning against another, large tree next to the bird-watching platform. There was a chance that the leaning tree could hit the platform, but it needed to be removed, so chair gave permission to take the risk. On March 31, chair returned to find that the tree had been cut without damage to the platform. Subsequently, another tree fell and damaged the rail on the right side of the platform. The damage is minor and easily repaired. Harry warned that hanging limbs are still as serious danger. Members discussed various options to get them down safely. An ECC work party will complete the cleanup on Monday, April 17, starting at 9:00 a.m. Chair will thank the BOS for their help.

### Education and Outreach:

- Birds, Bats, and Butterflies presentation by the Speaking for Wildlife program offered through UNH Extension and NH Fish and Game will be presented on Friday, April 21, at the Town Offices, School Street, at 6:30 p.m. Audrey Frazier has already printed out a flyer and posted it at the town offices.
- Speaking of Bats, the students at Effingham Elementary School have received their assignment for the Earth Day Poster Contest. Posters will be judged at the May 1 ECC meeting. Prizes will be awarded at the school on May 15. It will be the first in-person award presentation since 2019.
- Earth Day roadside cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 29. Any volunteers who want a road assignment can meet at the Town Offices at 9:00 a.m. A cookout lunch will be provided at the town offices at noon. Chair will coordinate with transfer station staff. Volunteers who have a usual stretch of road are free to start on their own.

### Other Business and Special Reports:

- On March 18, the voters passed Article 20 on the 2023 Town Warrant, s that ECC will now receive 50 percent of any land use change tax collected, with no upper limit. This will help fund conservation efforts in the town.
- Pat Parker, who had been a member of ECC in the 1990s, died Thursday, March 30. She was 96.
- Chair email Andrew Lester regarding the resumption and completion of trail work in the PRCP. Kamal has advised that he should handle liaison. He suggests waiting until May for further communication.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, May 1, 2023, at the municipal offices, School Street, at 6:30 p.m.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim White, Recording Secretary

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