

These minutes are draft until approved

___Approved

___Approved with changes.

Effingham Conservation Commission Meeting minutes, January 1, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. There were no guests or members of the public

Organizational Issues:

- The minutes of the Dec. 4, 2023 meeting were approved.
- Financial Report: \$2,479.06 remains from the 2023 budget, to be transferred to the ECC fund. Of this, \$1,000.00 is earmarked for future land purchases. The remaining balance is available for needs as they arise. The balance in the money market account to which the savings account was transferred should stand at \$16,961.68. ECC has received no statement yet from the new account. The Invasive Plant Fund balance is \$14,694.45, of which \$4,877.34 will be transferred to the town general fund to reimburse funds paid to New England Milfoil for 2023 harvesting operations.

Water Issues:

- It's been wet.

Land Issues:

- A large tree fell across the entrance to the LLP in the big storm on Dec. 18. An unknown benefactor subsequently cut the tree up before and ECC work detail could be pulled together to get to it. And aren't we glad.
- PRCP Trail extension: Kamal laid out three basic options for funding the trail. ECC could dig out the full amount of the Recon Trail Design bid – roughly \$14,000 – from the ECC fund, leaving a very small balance remaining. Alternatively, ECC could take roughly \$9,000.00 from the fund and ask Recon what they could do for that amount. The third option would be to scrap the trail project, possibly undertaking some minor maintenance and improvements with ECC work groups. Diane will research other trail building companies. Chair will continue to try to reach Katherine Dufault of CCCD regarding assistance CCCD can supposedly provide situations like this.

Education and Outreach:

- Chair is still working on the optimal display option for the write-up on the microburst damage at the LLP.

Other Business and Special Reports:

- Tim will write the annual summary for the town report.

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim White, Recording Secretary

These minutes are draft until approved