
Tamworth Conservation Commission
Tamworth, NH 03886

Tamworth Conservation Commission Meeting - August 9, 1993

PRESENT : John Mersfelder, Peg King, Chris Conrod, Nat Steele, Mike Johnson, Ned Beecher

1. Minutes of previous meeting were approved, with the following change:

The last sentence of Item #6 should read, "It was agreed that if Chris feels a waiver should be given, he will attend the public hearing..."

2. Wetlands.

a. A possible violation at Skandia North has been reported. Bill McKay and Bill Lundberg of Skandia North were present to find out what they could do to correct the situation and to determine what action the Commission might take.

John and Chris reported on their visit to the site: less than a total of 20,000 square feet of fill has been placed in a wooded wetland as part of a new connecting road to Sarah Circle from the back of the development. A total of about 100 feet of the new road has been filled. This road was included as part of the original 1987 development plan at the request of the Planning Board. In a 1992 letter to Skandia North, a copy of which John read aloud, the Planning Board urged the developers to complete all parts of the original plan, including the connecting road. McKay and Lundberg claimed they were just following the directions of the Planning Board, and that they remember no directions from the Board that suggested that a permit for work in wetlands would be necessary. Commission members pointed out that, none the less, the developer is responsible for obtaining all necessary permits.

Further discussion about the actual placement of the new road followed; it was noted by Chris that the fill may not be along the originally-planned route for the new road. Commission members then suggested that an after-the-fact application to the Wetlands Board could be submitted. Chris noted that the Wetlands Board would consider possible alternatives to filling the wetland when considering any such application. It is possible the Wetlands Board would deny the permit and require Skandia North to remove any fill and restore the wetland. Skandia North could remove the fill and work with the Planning Board to resolve the issue of the planned connecting road.

It was agreed by Commission members that any action by the Wetland Board would be affected by the Commission's response to the application. The Commission members agreed that they could not speculate on what the Commission's position on a wetlands permit application might be until the application was submitted and further site visits were made.

Finally, the Commissioners agreed that it was imperative that something be done about the situation soon. The Commission will not report the possible violation or proceed any further with this matter until after the next Commission meeting, scheduled for September 13. Skandia North is expected to decide what action they will take by that time. John noted that if Skandia North acted in good faith, and was unable to meet with the Planning Board on this issue before September 13, that the Commission would consider extending its period of non-action.

b. Urquhart Bridge - Chris has given Peg his Commission report on this bridge project, and Peg sent it to the Wetlands Board.

c. Nighswander dock - John noted that he sent the minutes of the last meeting to Allan Smith of the Chocorua Lake Conservation Foundation.

d. Gilman Valley Road bridge, Town of Tamworth - The Wetlands Board has requested the names of abutters to this project; the Selectmen are responsible for this.



3. Tin Mountain funding - The total raised to date is \$1470. Nat suggested and it was agreed that we appropriate all extra funds from this fund-drive to future support of Tin Mountain (or other similar) education programs.

4. Community Environmental Outreach Program (CEOP) - John read a letter from UNH about this. CEOP would provide experts and students to complete specified projects in town. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that there was no obvious project to pursue with CEOP at this time.

5. Lindsey trail bridge - The certificate for insurance on the footpath bridge has arrived; it includes liability coverage for \$1,000,000. John reported that he sent a copy to the Lindseys. Because the insurance requires a regular inspection of the bridge, Chris said he would check it monthly and reported that he inspected it and found no problems on August 6. However, Chris suggests that within the year--and preferably by winter--the bridge deck be replaced. Chris moved and Peg seconded the following motion, which was approved:

VOTE I: For Chris to spend about \$160-\$200 on pressure-treated lumber for the replacement of the Lindsey footpath bridge deck.

6. John asked where the 2nd copy of the compiled Wetlands Rules is; it has been missing for some time. It was agreed that more copies were needed, and that one should be in the Commission town-office drawer. John will order three more copies. Chris moved and John seconded the following motion, which was approved:

VOTE II: John will spend \$15 on the purchase of 3 new copies of the Wetland Rules book.

7. TCC membership - John will contact Ron Remick before the next meeting.

8. Deeryards - A new map of deeryards in Tamworth has arrived. Copies were given out, and one was put in the TCC files.

9. The Bearcamp River Trail - is complete from Beede Falls to Bearcamp Pond in Sandwich. A dedication will occur on August 16 at Sandwich Town Hall, to be followed by a hike. Ned said he will try to attend.

10. Hazardous Waste Collection Day - Peg reported that there were not many people at Center Ossipee, which may have been due to this being the first year for this site.

11. Hemenway Trail - John recalled the need for work to remove blowdowns. He, Chris, and Ned will meet in September to complete the work.

12. Master Plan - Nat reported that the preliminary map for the Master Plan will be ready soon from Lakes Region Planning Commission. There will be a brief two week period for adding any special features. It was agreed that deeryards, Ordination Rock, scenic views and other things should be added.

13. Easement signs - Peg noted that if the Commission wants to order signs from the Kennett shop, it should be done soon. The following verbiage was suggested, and will be given to easement donors for their consideration:

"This property is protected in its natural state for future generations by a Conservation Easement given by _____ to the Town of Tamworth in _____ (year).
Tamworth Conservation Commission"

It was agreed that the Commission accept the suggestions of the Community School to make its current sign and our new sign compatible.