

Present: Alan Smith, Kris Bontaites, John Mersfelder, Charlie Townsend, guest speakers

1. Minutes from the June meeting were accepted with no changes.
2. Treasurer's Report: \$12,836.03 in Conservation Fund, \$835.00 in operating account.
3. Dredge and Fill: John presented details on an application submitted by David Bowles and the Ossipee Snowmobile Club on behalf of the State of NH to construct a bridge at a former bridge site over the Swift River near the junction of Fowler's Mill Road, Route 113A, and Old Mail Road. Construction will involve some I-beams to span the river between two abandoned abutments and the addition of approx. 200 square feet of rock (not to be placed in the water). John has made a site visit with David Bowles, and will send along a letter to the State to expedite the process.
4. Toby Page from the CLA came to speak on the monitoring of phosphorus levels in Chocorua Lake. He said CLA has worked with UNH for over 20 years on this project, during which time they have noted an increase in chlorophyll (a) levels, and a decrease in transparency. During the same period, traffic along Route 16 has risen as well, as his data showed. Phosphorus levels around 10 parts per billion is considered okay, and 2.0 ppb not ok. Levels reaching 28.9 ppb have been detected as recently as 1995, yet they consistently find 4 ppb over the dam. This implies that most of the phosphorus entering the lake remains there. Mr. Page cited a number of sources of water entering the lake and the phosphorus levels monitored at each source, and found much of the phosphorus to be entering from the Chocorua River and from along Route 16. The strategy he and his group proposes is two-pronged: try to secure more easements along the Chocorua River, and construct berms, swales and plunge basins along Route 16. Assuming approval from the town, the DOT, the DES, and others, he hopes to start construction of the berm/swale project in the fall. John mentioned our concerns that silt fences be installed and that other wetland construction policies be observed. He then moved to accept the project as presented, and Alan seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor.
5. Scott Aspinall has applied to the State to construct a pond on his property to measure 80'x200'x12' deep. It will be about 1000' from Mill Brook. He presented his plans and discussed his desire to use the pond for wildlife habitat, fire suppression and agricultural uses (esp. to irrigate blueberries). John has visited the site. John moved that the TCC accept the project pending submission of the application to the Select Board. Alan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
6. Possible Wetland Violation. Rob Nikodem of South Tamworth has filed a formal complaint regarding what he feels may be a potential violation on property owned by Richard Gregory on Union Hall Road. Mr. Nikodem says there appears to have been the addition of fill in or near the Bearcamp River and the possibility of redirection of the natural course of the river now or in the future. John and Charlie will visit the site.
7. Minimum Impact: According to the State, notice is sufficient to start work on projects proposed by Mary Wakefield of Milton MA (Tax map 408/8) and Margaret Fernander of Williamstown MA (Tax map 412/17).
8. Chris Canfield asked if we would submit a list of TCC trails to the TCA's "Tamworth Today" publication project. It was agreed that Rob would submit a copy of our map.
9. John reported that Hazardous Waste Day had gone along just fine this year.
10. Kris reported that TCC had achieved some visibility and received some response to our questionnaire at our booth at Tamworth Family Day. The booth had been ably manned by John and Betty, with rare but valuable appearances by Kris. The Sportsmen's Club has agreed to share a tent with us again next year.

- Charlie Townsend

8-7-99

Tamworth Conservation Commission,

We would like to formally register  
a complaint about added fill and redirection  
of a brook on Bearcamp River on Union  
Hall Rd owned by Richard Gregory.

Contractor is Kent Jardine of So,  
Tamworth.

Would you please investigate any  
illegal wetlands violations.

Thank you,

Nancy Palmer 93 Union Hall Rd

Robert M. Nierden 132 Union Hall Rd