

Tamworth Outing Club minutes, July 26, 2021

Present:

Amy Berrier, Wyatt Berrier, Kathi Brown, Kent Hemingway, Mark Fournier, Teresa Fournier, Robbie Farnum, & Kit Morgan.

Guests: Willie Farnum, Ellen Farnum, & Gabrielle Watson.

This meeting was called to order at 7:15.

Secretary's Report:

The May and June minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's report was approved. Kathi shared a letter from the Kelley family which was included with a \$3,000 donation in memory of Brian Kelley. There was discussion as to how this gift should be used. Kit will write a thank you note to the Kelleys. Kent made a motion that the next ten dances (\$300 each) be sponsored by this gift. This motion was approved by the board.

Hemenway State Forest Trails:

Gabriele Watson made a presentation to the board about news recently shared with the Tamworth Conservation Commission about proposed work on the Duck Pond Loop Trail in order for snowmobiles to use this. Kit had learned that part of the rationale behind this project was to facilitate groomer turnaround due to the location of the new Huckins Barn parking area. Kit had spoken to Mike Weeks about this recently. Gabriele pointed out that, currently, only snowshoe and back-country ski users have been on this trail and that these users were not consulted when plans were in the works to make changes to the trail, including at least one bridge over wetlands. Robbie asked if there is a turnaround alternative. Willie said that there could be a turnaround in/near the new parking area. He also said that this Duck Pond Loop is an historic trail, in use for decades. Mark brought up the fact that the snowmobile club did not initiate this, but rather the State. Kent feels that the new parking lot is a reasonable accommodation for snowmobiles, to provide access to Wonalancet and Sandwich trails, BUT he feels that the Duck Pond Loop expansion to the snowmobile network is not appropriate. Willie queried as to whether TOC still has a "interest" in this trail. Robbie feels that part of TOC's mission is to protect trails, even unofficially. Kent would sign a letter, as an

interested individual, opposing this expansion. He suggested that TOC talk directly to OVSC to agree NOT to develop this trail, but rather to figure out a turnaround alternative. Mark will speak with George Kaye of OVSC and invite him to our September meeting.

Annual Meeting:

This will be held at Chocorua Park on Sunday, August 15 at 5 PM. TOC will provide burgers and dogs. All are encouraged to bring potluck sides.

Annual Appeal:

Last year's appeal was very successful. Mailing costs were \$1,100 and the appeal brought in enough to cover these costs, plus a significant amount in donations. Robbie made a motion that TOC send out a similar appeal in the fall, before Halloween. This would go out as a mass mailing to all of Tamworth, as well as by first class to all on our out-of-town membership list. Motion was approved.

Reach the Beach:

TOC will take the White Lake station this year. The event will be September 17-18. Kent will organize the TOC crew.

Dances:

Current Town rules allow use of the Town House. Board decided to revisit the question at our September meeting of whether it is wise to restart our dance series at this time. We are hopeful to have a dance in October.

Recreation Director:

Tamworth has hired a new Rec Director who will be starting in August. Kit will invite the new hire to our Annual Meeting.

Tennis:

The Advantage Kids Tennis & Yoga Program will continue through August 26, as well as after school in the fall. Kent reports that this program continues to be a great success.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM. See everyone at the Annual Meeting on 8/15!
Minutes submitted by Amy Berrier