

Tamworth Outing Club minutes, September 25, 2023

Present:

Amy Berrier, Sharon Morrison, Dylan Alden, Teresa Fournier, Mark Fournier, Rob Farnum, Suzanne Morgan, & Barb Bloomberg.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:54

Secretary's Report

The July 2023 minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Amy asked about the line item for money in the "Baseball" fund. Board agreed that, even though baseball programs in Tamworth have not been active recently, it is best to hold the money for any future needs.

The treasurer's report was approved.

History Center Exhibit:

Katy Thompson has requested that the TOC exhibit be removed between the dates of October 9-13. Dylan will contact Katy and get in touch with TOC board with details. Exhibit items will be stored at Wyatt's house.

Halloween:

Amy reviewed Halloween event notes (attached at the end of these minutes). Sharon shared an event map and discussed the street closure and parking. She will attend the Select Board meeting on Thursday, 10/5 to discuss these Halloween logistics. On 10/1 members of the Boo Croo will send out Exchange posts requesting pumpkins, volunteers, etc. There was discussion about having a TOC donation site, perhaps at the Terror Barn, where anyone could donate via a QR code.

Traditional Music & Dance Grant:

The Tamworth Foundation approved the TOC request for funding for music and dance programs during the coming school year. See notes at the end of these minutes for program details.

Adopt-a-Highway:

This fall's litter pickup will be on Saturday, October 14, starting at 7:15 AM. Meet at Rutabaga parking lot. Dylan will contact DOT for bags and to let them know we are doing this on that day.

Groomer:

Rob explained the need for side doors and a back windshield cover to keep out blowing snow while grooming. Suzanne made a motion to appropriate up to \$1,600 to enclose the UTV cab with side doors and a back window cover. This motion was approved. Rob gave an update on groomer maintenance. Dylan offered to help.

Trail Maintenance:

Paul King has been organizing X/C ski trail maintenance outings on Sunday mornings. TOC will discuss Ferncroft trail work at our next meeting (10/23).

Sandwich Vegetation Management Project:

Amy gave a summary of the Sunday, 9/24, SVMP "field trip" hosted by USFS Saco District staff. This was a very informative session, complete with visuals in the woods regarding setbacks/buffers and examples of forest areas to be cut. There will be another meeting at the Town House on Thursday, 9/28. All are encouraged to attend, as it is important to keep an ongoing TOC presence at these meetings due to our strong interests/concerns about cutting and logging truck activity proposed in the Ferncroft area.

Ski Program:

Teresa gave a brief overview about costs and volunteer/student ratio. In the coming year, the Junior Ski Program could potentially cost up to \$16,000. The Tamworth Foundation has approved a grant for \$8,000 and TOC will fund up to \$2,500. This leaves approximately \$5,500 for the school to raise through parent contributions and other funding sources. Final approval of the program is still waiting due to bussing availability. It is possible that Eldridge Transportation in Madison may be able to provide busses for

Tamworth students. Details are still being worked out. Additional info from King Pine is that the student-to-volunteer instructor (chaperone) ratio included in the program fee is 8:1. If Tamworth wants a lower ratio, this will have an additional cost of \$15 per volunteer per week. Teresa noted that all fees must be paid to King Pine by December 1. Amy and Teresa are working with Kitty Green at Brett School to see if a ski program can be held during the coming winter.

Other Business:

A motion was approved to move the October TOC meeting to Monday, October 23. This is due to Halloween events.

Meeting adjourned at 8:19.

Minutes submitted by Amy Berrier

Next TOC meeting is on Monday, October 23, 6:45, Cook Memorial Library.

Halloween planning ideas, 2023

TOC board member heading up each aspect of these events is highlighted. Extra help always welcome!
Pumpkin Carving, SUNDAY 10/29, 1:30-3; Trick-or-Treating & Haunted Barn, TUESDAY, 10/31
Trick-or-Treat, 5:30-7:30; Haunted Barn, 6-8

Pumpkins (we need about 70): AMY

- Solicit pumpkin donations on the Tamworth Exchange
- Arrange for pumpkin pickup and storage
- Purchase additional pumpkins. Boo Crew has a budget for pumpkins. Check with Jason at Grand View Farm in Conway. (Marsha Colcord is assisting with locating pumpkins from area farms)
- Post-Halloween pumpkin pick up (should start at 8 PM; put request for takers on the Exchange).

Pumpkin Carving, SUNDAY, 10/29: AMY

- Volunteers will gather at History Center lawn around 1:00; carving starts at 1:30
- Fire pit, wood, and water (Mark & Teresa)
- Tarps and buckets (Rob, Amy, & Wyatt)
- Scoops: TOC should purchase some to have on hand (Pam & Sharon)
- Carving knives: ask people to bring their own
- Rainy day location: Cook Library basement? (confirmed by Mary Cronin)

- Load and distribute pumpkins along Main Street, TUESDAY, 10/31 @ 4 PM? We need someone with a truck for this.
- Music: White Mountain Ceili Band. (confirmed by Dexter Harding).

Candy: ROB

- Put candy request on the Tamworth Exchange on October 1st
- Possibly request donations of cash for candy.
- Set up candy drop location (Rob's porch)

Pumpkin Lights: BARB & ROB

- Battery lights, votive candles, and glass holders; Lighters (Rob has last year's supply and will order more as needed).
- Battery lights are required in pumpkins at Distillery, Lyceum, and Barnstormers.
- Pumpkin lighting on Halloween eve and checking on pumpkins throughout the night; designate one or two volunteers.

Haunted Barn, TUESDAY, 10/31: ROB & WYATT

- This year's Haunted Barn (Old MacDonald's Terror Barn, *redux??*) will be in Rob and Ashley Farnum's barn.
- Rob & Wyatt are organizing this. Pam and others will assist them.
- The sub-theme this year is "clowns"
- Rob has a party tent that will be set up behind the barn.
- Fifteen volunteers are needed. Volunteers so far: Rich Collins (building help), Grace Downey, Ana Prilliman, Morgan Dubuque

Road Closure: SHARON

- Chief Littlefield has agreed to work with TOC to close Main Street between Great Hill Road and Route 113 intersection during Trick-or-Treating, from 5-8 PM
- Sharon will run this by the Select Board at their 10/5 meeting and will contact Main Street residents when asking about T-or-T

Trunk-or-Treat: SHARON

- Chief Littlefield would prefer that this event take place in the village, instead of at the Brett School.
- PTA has confirmed that they will host this behind the Town Office.

Trick-or-Treat Volunteers and Locations, TUESDAY, 10/31: SHARON

- Survey of which Village homes and businesses will host stations (Sharon; October 1)
- Volunteers should arrive at 5:15 in front of the Town Office to get candy for their station.
- Parking will be behind Town House and possibly in Remick Farm lots.

Location

Town Office
 Other Bakery
 UU Church
 Cook Library

Sharon will sign up 2023 hosts

Emily Verny (Tamworth Rec)
 Katy Thompson
 UU Church members
 CML staff

Sally Flagg residence	volunteer needed
Behr/Ball residence	Hillary Behr & Kyle Ball
Priestman residence	Priestman family
Tatcharnek (sp??) residence	Mark & Teresa Fornier?
Behr residence	Behr family
Gilman Tavern	Ana Prilliman? (Barnstomers)
Town House	Melanie Streeter (Friends of Town House)
Distillery	volunteer needed
Farnum residence front porch	Danielle Mason
Carter rental (next to Behr Farm)	current residents will host

Other possible volunteers: Sharon Nothnagle, Lora Colton, Ana Prilliman

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Tamworth Traditional Music & Dance Grant Proposal & Budget

NOTE: All funding for this program has been approved

Traditional New England contra and square dancing is a participatory art form. There is no true audience and everyone is part of the “performance,” with each dance a unique collaboration between musicians, dancers, and the caller.

Tamworth is home to the second oldest continuously held dance in the State of New Hampshire. There is a rich tradition of dancing in our town, the result of many people working to keep the dances going over the years and to pass the joy of swinging and sashaying across a Tamworth dance floor along to future generations.

This grant proposal aims to provide traditional music and dance opportunities in Tamworth for dancers of all ages and abilities, and for musicians seeking to learn and participate in our local and regional dance band traditions. These programs will improve and enhance the awareness, participation, skills, and appreciation needed to maintain Tamworth’s music and dance tradition. Dances have been a valued community event for years, hosted by the Tamworth Outing Club since 1935. Tamworth’s dances have a strong reputation throughout the region for welcoming participants of all ages and abilities, providing enjoyment and inclusion for both dancers and musicians.

The grant’s mission is divided in two parts: Dance and Music.

Dance:

Dance series for young children (ages 3-6?) and their caregivers.

- Dances to be held at the Cook Memorial Library for one hour on Saturday mornings (four weekly sessions).
- No prior experience needed. All dances are taught and called.

- Jacqueline Laufman will call traditional children dances with apprentice Jennifer Villalobos practice calling some dances.
- Tamworth's Trad Dance Band musicians will be invited to sit-it and play the tunes for these library dances.
- This series is based on the very successful series presented at CML last winter/spring.

Cost: \$600 (\$150 per session) for Jacqueline Laufman, calling and travel.
(Funding to be requested from Friends of Cook Memorial Library)

Dance experience for elementary school-age children

- Work with staff at the KA Brett School to offer learning sessions at the school for 4th and 5th graders. This could be integrated with studies about Tamworth and/or New Hampshire history.
- Hold an evening family dance at school free-of-charge and open to all.
- Have 4th and 5th graders demonstrate one or two dances that they learned, then get their parents up to dance.
- No prior experience needed. All dances taught and called.
- These programs would be run by Jacqueline Laufman and Beverly Woods, both experienced callers, musicians, and educators.
- The Tamworth Trad Dance Band would be invited to play for these dances.

Cost: \$600 for JL and BW.

Public dances with a special outreach to new dancers

- The Tamworth Outing Club currently host monthly Second Saturday dances at the Tamworth Town House, 7:30-10.
- Offer free admission (donations welcome) to three dances in Fall/Winter 2023-2024 to encourage anyone to try traditional square and contradancing, with the cost covered by this grant.
- Start at 7 PM to encourage families with children to attend for at least part of the evening.
- Include a special emphasis on teaching basic dance techniques at these dances.
- Improve publicity and outreach to bring new people to these community dances.
- Create a multi-generational and sustainable dance community, building on an almost nine-decade-old Tamworth tradition (started in 1935!)

Cost: \$1,050 (\$350 per dance for caller, band, and additional dance instruction)

Music:

Traditional tune learning sessions

- To continue providing a series of tune-learning dance band sessions for players who are proficient on their instruments following the successful 2022-23 "Trad Band" sessions.

- Sessions to be led by Jacqueline Laufman and Beverly Woods, both dance callers, musicians, and educators.
- Open to all musicians with rudimentary ability with their traditional instrument (fiddle, guitar, banjo, ukulele, mandolin, penny whistle, flute, harmonica, for example).
- Tunes would include traditional jigs, reels, waltzes, polkas, hornpipes, and schottisches and will build on the common repertoire of dances tunes played for dances in Tamworth and the surrounding region. Sessions will be tiered for musicians new to the tunes this year, with more basic instruction offered for the first thirty minutes of each session.
- Sessions to be held monthly September through April at the Tamworth Town House (eight sessions; 1.5 hours each).

Cost: \$2,880 total (\$360/session) for J. Laufman, B. Woods, and travel.

(Optional: Add in \$450 for three guest professional musicians for the local area to join three different sessions and teach from a different perspective.)

“Band Craft” workshops for traditional musicians

- Workshops to be led by Shana Aisenberg and Beverly Woods, both with extensive experience as callers, multi-instrumental musicians, and music educators.
- Open to all musicians with rudimentary ability with their traditional instrument (fiddle, guitar, banjo, ukulele, mandolin, penny whistle, flute, harmonica, for example).
- Sessions to be held monthly in the fall of 2023 at the Tamworth Town House (three sessions; 1.5 hours each).
- Workshops would cover:
 - Band and jam skills: understanding how to work with other musicians by listening to what is going on within the band; learning how to add unique and complimentary elements to a tune, with an ear towards what other players are already doing.
 - Dance rhythms: building rhythmic skills, both individually and in a group.
 - Arranging and harmony: creative approaches to chordal accompaniment, harmonies, and variations.

Cost: \$900 (\$300 per workshop)

Dance program budget:

Dance series for young children	\$600 (FoCML)
Dance experiences for school-age children & families	\$600
Second Saturday dances, free to all, with instruction	\$1,050

Music program budget:

Traditional tune learning sessions	\$2,880
Band Craft workshops	\$900

Total program budget \$6,030

Funding of \$5,430 to be requested from the Tamworth Foundation as Part B of the Tamworth Outing club 2023 grant request, with \$600 possibly contributed by FoCML. NOTE: FoCML does not meet until after the Foundation deadline of September 1, so funding from that source cannot be determined at this time.

Notes:

- Tamworth Outing Club has hosted, promoted, and supported dances since 1935. The TOC is looking to boost and sustain Tamworth's traditional music and dance culture for many decades to come.
- Youth and young families are critical to the continued vitality of and interest in traditional music and dancing.
- New musicians, new callers, and new dancers are all necessary to continue this long-treasured tradition in Tamworth into the future.

Program Contact: Amy Berrier, 603-651-5800 or wysi62@gmail.com