**November 2019 Special Winchester Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes** 

Present: Gus Ruth, Bonnie Leveille, Norm Sims, John Hann, Tom Turant, Paul Hubner Steve Brackett, Job Baldvins, Joe Faloretti, Mim Johnson.

Meeting was called to order at 4:30PM. Motion passed to have alternates as regular members for the meeting as Gus and Norm will be recusing themselves from voting on any motions at this meeting as they are members of WEDC.

November 21<sup>st</sup> minutes were reviewed. John made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Tom seconded. Motion passed.

Gus called a special meeting after discussions with Karey and Tracy, State wildlife biologist. It was determined that it would be best that the WCC not provide the WEDC a loan in the amount of \$5000 as it presented possible legal complications.

John made a motion that the WCC reconsider the previous motion to loan the WEDC \$5000 for the black racer snake study. Joe seconded. Motion passed.

The concerns of the WCC providing a loan were explained. There would be difficult implications if something happened to the WEDC as financial matters would go to the Community Loan Fund. There were also concerns about terms and the cost of drawing up the loan.

Gus stated that Tracy had provided the invoice for the fall portion of the study in the amount of \$3214.26. There will be another study in the spring of which we do not know the cost.

Steve expressed a concern for the WCC funding the WEDC and if it fell within the mission statement of the WCC. Bonnie stated that the reason that the WCC voted to fund the study was within our mission statement. Out intent in supporting the study was to protect our natural resources as the black racer is a species of concern in NH. It also was clarified that the WEDC is a non profit and the project is of benefit to the Town,

After further discussion John made a motion that we table funding the study until the next meeting. Paul seconded. Motion was defeated 6-2.

Mim then made a motion that the WCC support the black racer study by paying the provided invoice of \$3214.26 for the fall of 2019 black racer study. Paul seconded. Motion passed. 6-2.

A motion to adjourn was made at 5:30PM. Submitted by:

Bonnie & Levelle

Bonnie Leveille, Secretary