EXETER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

August 13, 2013

Call to Order:

Chairman Russell Kaphan called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Nowak Room of the Exeter Town Office Building. Members present were Kristen Murphy, Town Natural Resource Planner, Cynthia and Mike Field, Ginny Raub, Jay Gregoire and Peter Richardson.

1. Introduction of Members Present

Each member stated their name.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Action Items:

1. Dredge and Fill Application from Waldron Engineering for an office building and parking lot on Holland Way, Tax Map 66, Lot 1 (Luke Hurley, Gove Environmental)

Luke Hurley, a representative of Gove Environmental addressed the board and explained the Dredge and Fill Application request. He pointed out the desired location on a map he provided and described site conditions.

He explained the following:

- This would be a single office building that impact 598 square feet of wetlands. In 2004, 2005 when the
 site was forested, these wetlands were not there. The wetland poc kets present now are a result of the
 logging activities. The one pocket of wetland that will be impacted is not a vernal pool as it does not hold
 water long enough.
- The location consists of 14 acres of which the project will utilize 6-7 acres.
- He described that the location has been moved from its original proposal to the North/Northwest to reduce the impact to the wetlands along Dearborn Brook.
- Roof run-off would be collected through two areas of catch basins flowing to an underground system.

There was discussion about the shoreland buffer as shown on the map. Ms. Murphy explained the Exeter shoreland boundary is only following the mainstem of Dearborn brook which feeds the reservoir. The property will impact 25,840 square feet of shoreland buffer.

Ms. Murphy explained the town has worked with Waldron through the technical review committee to move the location of the building. She further explained that when the property was logged, the site conditions were extremely muddy and it is likely that the pockets are a result of remaining low spots following the logging. In addition she mentioned that during the logging they did encroach on the buffer near Dearborn Brook. Mr. Hurley's plan does not show details but they are proposing additional plantings for the area where the logging encroached on the buffer. She also explained that the applicant has received the Conditional Use Permit from the Planning Board so the shoreland impacts being discussed are not the jurisdiction of NHDES, but town shoreland regulations. Mr. Hurley explained that by shifting everything towards the North it will reduce impacts to the wetland by 3,612 square feet, this reduced the impact to the buffer by 21,463 square feet and impact to the Exeter shoreland by 52,877 square feet.

Mr. Kaphan explained the committee needs to make a recommendation to DES (Department of Environmental Services).

A motion was made by Ms. Raub for the Commission to hold no position, seconded by Mr. Richardson. There were 6 Yea's and 1 Nay by Mr. Gregoire. Mr. Gregiore said Gove Environmental made great effort to reduce the impact to the wetlands and to not oppose would be better than holding no position. It was agreed the motion would be "We do not oppose." Motion carried - all in favor.

2. Dredge and Fill Application from the Town of Exeter for connection of reactivated wells for public water supply to a proposed water treatment facility on Lary Lane (Jeff Provost, Weston & Sampson)

Jeffrey McClure of Weston & Sampson addressed the board, saying he would present in place of Jeff Provost tonight.

Mr. McClure explained he is working with The Department of Public works in the design efforts of the new Ground Water Treatment facility and the impact of the site on Lary Lane. He met with Frank Richardson of DES, and they determined though the project involved Prime Wetlands, that the Water main route would not require a public hearing. He described that the water line will begin at the Stadium well site, directional drilling under the river, moving to Gilman Park area, continuing on to the Crawford area, then on to Court Street and back down Lary Lane. The water would be treated at the proposed Ground water facility for public consumption. He explained the reason for the route taken is due to the presence of a large number of utilities within Court Street , that NHDOT recently paved the road, and that they do not allow any utilities in the shoulder of their right of way. The project will impact 600 linear square feet to clear the edge of the embankment and install a water main, strip and stack soils so that the top 2' of soil will enhance regrowth. He explained construction should take approximately 2 weeks to complete. Ms. Murphy clarified that Deborah Goard of Southeast Land Trust who holds an easement on the property said SELT did not have any concerns about the project. She also asked Mr. McClure if the project was indeed greater than 0.25 miles from the river as was indicated on the wetland application. Mr. McClure confirmed it was.

Mr. Kaphan explained the committee's role is to make a recommendation to NHDES to oppose, not oppose or hold no position.

Mr. Richardson made a motion to approve as proposed, seconded by Mr. Fields. Motion carried - all in favor.

3. Committee Reports (trails, boundary monitoring, outreach, etc.)

Trails Report: Mr. Gregoire said he attended a trail meeting a few weeks ago and the members discussed their priority trail projects and the budget for the coming year.

He provided the following list of suggested priorities for the coming year:

1. If you follow the BLT trail heading south from Watson Rd, if you are at junction 11 heading toward 7 it is the first bridge you come to there is a bridge under water. Some of the trail (40-50 feet) is located on private land. They discussed the steps needed to repair the area and possibly reaching out to the land owner. If heading north, it would be the 2nd bridge which is closest to the pig farm.

Jay said the trail committee was curious about the process for how to address structures that are on private land. Ms. Murphy mentioned spending town money on private land could create an issue. Mr.

Kaphlan explained if the bridge is not repaired and fails, people will be walking in the wetlands. This will be addressed at a later time.

- 2. Entry on the Blue trail off of Industrial Drive. There are planks in poor shape. The committee members are working with the owner Schaffmaster. Members from the trail committee had materials to donate to make the repairs.
- 3. They mentioned a Cell Tower Road and Bridge Ride trail. Mr. Gregoire will gather more details. Again this is on private land.
- 4. A trail coming north from the tunnel under Route 101 and head left there are some areas that need repairs. The committee will discuss hurdles due to private land, logistics of town money and brainstorm for ideas.
- 5. ADA trail options are being reviewed. Crotchet Mountain is being used as a resource. No other details were provided.

Monitoring Report: Ms. Field stated they have been working on the Old Town Farm Road property. Mr. Fields explained he compared the boundary monitoring excel files data to GPS data and was able to better determine the location of the pins/boundary. They are trying to find additional pins to further track the pin data.

Ms. Murphy explained the interns have completed their assignment with the town. They completed the Parker property, pin documentation and property inspection, the Colcord Pond property and they documented Beech Hill property which involved photo logs and descriptive information. They visited Chapman Landing; however, a revisit is needed. Ms. Murphy walked the land at Jones easement with the owner but did not look for pins.

Outreach:

Sunday August 18, 2013 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. there will be a stormwater education program for the Marshall Farms residents. The town received a grant to work with the Brickyard Pond Homeowners Association. The education event will include storm water pollution, installing rain barrels and lawn care. The water quality of Brickyard Pond will also be monitored. The group will be meeting at the first house on the right on Colonial Drive.

Regular Business:

1. Approval of Minutes: July 9th, 2013

A motion was made by Ms. Fields to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Fields. Motion carried, all in favor.

2. Natural Resources Planner's Report and Correspondence

Ms. Murphy said there is nothing pressing at this time.

Ms. Raub explained the Facebook page has been approved as "Friends of the Exeter Conservation Commission." She and Ms. Murphy will be the administrators.

3. Other Business

Mr. Kaphan spoke of re-establishingthe Open Space Committee. Mr. Kaphan mentioned Don Briselden would be interested in participating with this committee. The Board of Selectman will be asked to establish a formal

committee. This committee will be a formal structure for any monitoring issues. Ms. Murphy and Mr. Gregoire also stated they are interested.

Ms. Raub reviewed the Treasury Report.

She reviewed the following:

- Registry of deeds -\$9,605.00, which \$500.00 has been used.
- Before the variance there were two accounts (Peoples United and Citizens Bank) that totaled \$28,746.77.

4. Next Meeting: Date and Agenda Items

Mr. Kaphan requested each subcommittee provide him with the amount of time they would like to have for their report discussion.

Ms. Murphy stated the next meeting with take place on September 10, 2013.

A motioned was made by Mr. Gregoire, seconded by Mr. Fields to adjourn to a work session at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried - all in favor.

Work Session:

1. 2014 Budget Planning

Ms. Murphy explained she would like to talk about what remains in the budget, what should be available by the end of the year and come up with a plan for the budget request which is due on Thursday.

Ms. Murphy explained the budget process and reviewed the two avenues for the way things are presented in the budget.

Ms. Murphy would like support from committee members to present the CIP request and she will help address questions. The first planning board presentation took place on Thursday and the Elliot property was presented. Ms. Murphy explained the Planning Board felt the money would be better spent elsewhere since the zoning ordinance and wetlands would protect the areas presented. She requested the members to assist presenting their opinion or consider discuss a Citizens Petition if the project should not be approved. It was pointed out that if other members feel strongly about the Elliot property, other members will need to be involved to help get this on the budget request.

The next CIP session is scheduled for September 12th, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Murphy stated the proposal is that Commission could provide \$85,000 with \$25,000 coming from conservation funds and \$33,500.00 from an open space bond. The remaining balance of \$26,490.00 (approx.) would be requested from the town. A ballpark estimate would be \$150,000.00 for total property acquisition which includes transaction costs.

Ms. Murphy explained Dwayne from Southeast Land Trust may want to get involved. She will touch base with him and see if he is available on August 19, 21 or 22 to meet with Jay and Russ K.

The commission reviewed and identified projects and expenditure.

It was determined the Rayne's Roof repair project will be included in the budget presentation. The approximate cost to repair the roof would be \$30,000.00.

A motion was made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Ms. Raub to conclude the work session at 8: 24 p.m. and reinitiate the public session. Motion carried – all in favor.

Ms. Murphy proposed the following year's expenses:

Community Services: Up to \$400.00.

Trail Management/Maintenance: Up to \$590.00.

Mowing of the gas line: Up to \$660.00.

Mowing of the fields: Up to \$1,200.00.

Mowing around Rayne's: Up to \$390.00.

Mr. Richardson made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Gregoire.

A motion was made to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Field. Motion carried -all in favor.

Respectfully yours,

Nadine Young

Recording Secretary