

- 1. Convene Meeting:** The meeting convened at 9:00 AM in the Nowak Room of the Exeter Town Offices. Members Present: Rod Bourdon, Frank Patterson, Pete Richardson, Richard Huber, Ginny Raub, Mimi Becker, Don Clement (BOS Rep), Lionel Ingram (Chair). IN ATTENDANCE: Paul Vlasich (DPW Rep), Kristin Murphy (Natural Resource Planner).
- 2. Minutes of the 20 March and 17 April meetings:** *Dr. Becker moved to pass the minutes from April 17, 2014, and March 20, 2014, second by Mr. Patterson. VOTE: Unanimous*

**3. Discussion of the status of the Dam's removal and the River's restoration:**

Mr. Vlasich said overall they were waiting for the Sandy Grant results. The warrant just passed for bond money to be used for the dam removal and will take affect in July. The Committee is not able to use the monies remaining from the 2008 Dam Modification warrant. There is a delay in the contract for the consultant as the Town is waiting on the results of the Sandy Grant. In addition the Mill's consultants are reviewing scenarios/alternatives for the river intake to their complex put together by VHB. Mr. Vlasich said another reason for delay in the contract is if the Sandy Grant is awarded there will be specific language for what the Town needs to do that will be added to the Scope of Services.

Mr. Vlasich added that he wanted to talk about the Scope of Services for cultural resources with Eric Hutchinson (NOAA). They plan to draft a memo at a meeting in June. They will then draft a work plan for review by Division of Historical Resources.

Mr. Vlasich also discussed another grant for funding, the Aquatic Resource Mitigation fund. The Town put together a pre-application asking for \$100,000. The fund wanted the Town to talk more about the background of information sent to public, any issues by the public, and a detailed budget. They also want to know the timing of the town water supply plan and description of post removal site conditions.

Mr. Vlasich said another grant to pre apply for is the 319 Watershed Assistance Grant and the pre-proposal deadline is July 11. There is \$475,000 available in the fund.

Mr. Ingram asked who was going to be at the meeting in June. Mr. Vlasich said the meeting is internal. Mr. Ingram suggested having the Heritage Commission involved.

Dr. Becker added Sally Soule (DES) would be available to assist with the 319 Grant.

Mr. Ingram asked about the RFP (Request for Proposal) to continue using the current Consultant (VHB) for the Dam Removal Project. Mr. Vlasich said for the RFP, to have a

contract and present it to the Board of Selectman to continue with the current consultant.

Ms. Raub asked how long the second contract with the consultants would last and what was the scope. Mr. Vlasich responded it would be in the scope of work; permitting, design, bidding. In addition, when the costs of the services are worked out they will make an administration and inspection contract.

Dr. Becker asked about monitoring during downtime. Mr. Vlasich said they would read up on monitoring aspects. Dr. Becker suggested keeping people informed of the whole project process.

Mr. Clement wished to discuss what he learned from the Rockingham County Planning Commission. There was a talk about the Flood Insurance Rate maps. The preliminary maps are available for the Squamscott, Little River, and rivers around the area. The maps were made using LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging), a very precise way to view and measure land. The new maps show that there are less flood zone acres in Exeter.

Dr. Becker added that the new maps show time span derived data which includes past data which reduces the mean results.

Mr. Patterson asked if the results were based on the dam in scenario. Mr. Clement said the results are based off a 100 year storm so areas in the flood zone won't change whether the dam is in or out.

Mr. Clement added Jen Gilbert from the National Flood Insurance Program explained at the Rockingham meeting; in 2012 flood insurance rates were subsidized. After the recent hurricanes, rates on structures built before the new Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) increased. Rates also depended on where structure is before or after the FIRM maps. Home owners should keep an eye on program rates.

Dr. Becker noted that towns should look at flood hazard areas and adapt zoning to prevent building in the hazard areas.

Mr. Clement said he gathered from the meeting that people could be required to have an elevation certificate which determines risk and therefore the rate. He agreed that if towns review flood hazard zoning, then it will restrict what can be built on flood areas.

Ms. Murphy (Natural Resource Planner) said they were working on picking up a community rating system which provides a break in flood insurance rates. Ms. Murphy will keep the Committee updated.

**4. Next Meeting:** June 12 or June 26 if they have to wait on more progress.

Mr. Clement advertised the Fish Ladder Tour on May 17 at 10:00 am put on by Fish and Game.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32am.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah McGraw