

Exeter Conservation Commission
January 10, 2023
Nowak Room
Exeter Town Offices
10 Front Street
Approved Minutes

Call to Order

1. Introduction of Members Present (by Roll Call)

Present at tonight's meeting were by roll call, Chair Andrew Koff, Vice-Chair Trevor Mattera, Connor Madison, Kyle Welch, Dave Short and Nancy Belanger, Select Board Representative

Staff Present: Kristen Murphy, Conservation & Sustainability Planner

Mr. Koff called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. Public Comment

Mr. Koff asked if there were any questions or comments from the public related to non-agenda matters and there were none.

Action Items

1. Update on Presentation to Select Board regarding CIP project

Mr. Koff reported there was a presentation last night at the Select Board meeting regarding the Commission's \$50,000 request and he and Kristen Murphy and Trevor Mattera were there. They provided a short summary, values of conservation land, goals and types, priority focus areas and fees.

2. Committee Reports

a. Property Management

i. Raynes

Ms. Murphy reported the contract was executed with Mr. Bedard and he will purchase material and being to pre-prime for construction in spring. She is waiting for the modification approval from L-Chip soon.

Ms. Murphy reported she checked on the barn after the big storm and a couple of windows had fallen in and DPW boarded them up.

44 Ms. Belanger asked if budget wise they would have enough for the project and Ms. Murphy
45 stated that while they have applied for the T-Mobile grant, if approved would cover what they
46 want to do but without would still address structural issues.

47

48 b. Trails

49

50 Mr. Short encouraged visitors to stay off trails as they are wet and muddy. He posted signs and has
51 some left. Mr. Welch reported cars being broken into in parking lots and recommended people lock
52 their cars and secure their valuables.

53

54 Ms. Murphy noted kiosk maps were ordered under last year's budget and a volunteer will replace
55 them when they come in.

56

57 Ms. Murphy reported Keith Whitehouse volunteered the labor to reshingle the kiosk at Henderson
58 Swasey and is looking just to be reimbursed for materials.

59

60 MOTION; Mr. Short motioned to reimburse Mr. Whitehouse for the materials for the kiosk roof, the
61 shingles in the amount of \$245. Mr. Mattera seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in
62 favor, the motion passed unanimously.

63

64 c. Outreach Events

65

66 Mr. Koff discussed the possibility of a snow shoe event if the weather cooperates, possibly in
67 February.

68

69 Ms. Murphy recommended doing another open barn day with hot chocolate.

70

71 Ms. Murphy reported Exeter will be sponsoring the butterfly monitoring program along with
72 another town two workshops of four will be hosted.

73

74 d. Other Committee Reports (River Study, Sustainability, Energy/CPAC, Tree)

75

76 Ms. Murphy noted the Sustainability Committee will be returning to the Select Board to try to
77 change their minds about having an ordinance instead of a policy on single use plastics.

78

79 Ms. Murphy noted the Energy Committee had a speaker from Clean Energy NH and is discussing
80 energy efficiency for the new safety complex with Mr. Sharples.

81

82 Ms. Belanger reported on the forum held by the Planning Board concerning the zoning
83 amendments. There are two public hearings coming on 1/13/23 and 1/26/23. Ms. Murphy will
84 present the flood plain ordinance amendment which changes the freeboard from 1' to 2' and
85 incentives for developing where to develop in town where there is already water and sewer. She
86 will find out more about changes to open space subdivisions.

87

88 Mr. Short asked if there would be any changes to Swasey and mentioned the amount of high
89 flooding they had during the pre-Christmas storm. Something should be put in the CIP to deal with
90 this in the future. Ms. Belanger will bring the matter back to the Select Board.

91
92 Mr. Koff noted the NH Coastal Adaptation group is hosting their annual King Tide Photo Contest on
93 January 21st. Ms. Murphy noted the winning photo receives a \$50 prize.

94
95 Ms. Murphy reported the Tree Committee is identifying ten more trees to label and working on a
96 monthly Facebook post. The arborist progress document is being filed for the requirement to be a
97 Tree City and there could be a growth award if going over and above. Mr. Short noted the volunteer
98 arborist day had a lot of man hours donated.

99

100 3. Approval of Minutes – December 12, 2022 Meeting - **Tabled**

101

102 4. Correspondence

103

104 The Board discussed the email from Mr. Griset concerning beaver concerns, flooding and DES complaint
105 which Ms. Murphy could not verify was filed. Beaver control is the responsibility of the Select Board and
106 would be in the Little River area. Mr. Koff suggested responding in person.

107

108 5. Other Business

109

110 Mr. Koff noted there will be an event for private well workshop at 6:00 tomorrow at the High School and
111 anyone on a private well can get free sampling including PFAS which is a \$400 value. Another will be
112 coming up in Stratham.

113

114 Mr. Koff reported an All Boards meeting on February 8th at 6:00 PM. Ms. Belanger will get the agenda.

115

116 Mr. Koff noted Ms. Eberhardt is no renewing as she is over committed. Mr. Mattera will hopefully be
117 renewing his membership this year. There are two vacancies to fill if anyone is interested.

118

119 6. Next Meeting: Date Scheduled (2/14/22), Submission Deadline (2/3/23)

120

121 8. Adjournment

122

123 MOTION: Mr. Koff moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM seconded by Mr. Short. A vote was
124 taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

125

126 Respectfully submitted,

127

128 Daniel Hoijer, Recording Secretary

129 Via Exeter TV

130 Zoom 881 0474 0927