



TOWN OF EXETER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

10 FRONT STREET • EXETER, NH • 03833-3792 • (603) 778-0591 • FAX 772-4709

www.exeternh.gov

PUBLIC NOTICE EXETER CONSERVATION COMMISSION Monthly Meeting

The Exeter Conservation Commission will meet in the Nowak Room, Exeter Town Offices
at 10 Front Street, Exeter on **Tuesday, January 10th, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.**

Call to Order:

1. Introduction of Members Present
2. Public Comment

Action Items:

1. Update on Presentation to Select Board regarding CIP Project
2. Committee Reports
 - a. Property Management
 - b. Trails
 - c. Outreach Events
 - d. Other Committee Reports (River Study, Sustainability, Energy/CPAC, Tree)
3. Approval of Minutes: December 12th, 2022 Meeting
4. Correspondence
5. Other Business
6. Next Meeting: Date Scheduled (2/14/23), Submission Deadline (2/3/23)

Andrew Koff

Exeter Conservation Commission

Posted January 6th, 2023 Exeter Town Website www.exeternh.gov and Town Office kiosk.

ZOOM Public Access Information:

Virtual Meetings can be watched on Channel 22 and on Exeter TV's Facebook and YouTube pages.

To participate in public comment, click this link: <https://exeternh.zoom.us/j/89572148451>

To participate via telephone, call: +1 646 558 8656 and enter the Webinar ID: 895 7214 8451

Please join the meeting with your full name if you want to speak.

Use the "Raise Hand" button to alert the chair you wish to speak. On the phone, press *9.

More instructions for how to participate can be found here: <https://www.exeternh.gov/townmanager/virtual-town-meetings> **Contact us at extvg@exeternh.gov or 603-418-6425 with any technical issues.**

**TOWN OF EXETER
PLANNING DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM**

Date: December 6th, 2023
To: Conservation Commission Board Members
From: Kristen Murphy, Natural Resource Planner
Subject: Nov 8th Conservation Commission Meeting

Committee Reports

1. Property Management
 - a. Raynes Barn, Contract Executed, Minor storm damage that DPW is fixing.
 - b.
2. Trails
 - a. Replacement kiosk maps ordered
 - b. Henderson Swasey & Oaklands kiosks, volunteer offered to replace shingles labor free. Requesting approval for reimbursement of materials at \$245.
 - i. *Motion to approve the expenditure of \$245 from Conservation Land Administration budget category.*
3. Other Committee Reports (River Study, Sustainability, Energy/CPAC, Tree)

Correspondence

1. See attached email from Brian Griset and my response. Drew and I intend to schedule a day to meet with him onsite the week of the 9th to review the boundary signage error he mentioned.



Kristen Murphy <kmurphy@exeternh.gov>

Re: Flooding morning Dec 23 2022

1 message

Kristen Murphy <kmurphy@exeternh.gov>
To: Brian Griset <grisetandsons@comcast.net>
Cc: "Koff, Andrew" <drewkoff@gmail.com>

Thu, Dec 29, 2022 at 10:15 AM

Brian,

During the September Conservation Commission meeting you stated you believed the following things have created situations that triggered the beavers to dam up the river:

- 1) The RR dumping ties into the river & culvert replacement without a permit
- 2) The SAU dumping cinder block from the building that was on the Morrissette property back before it was granted to the town
- 3) The Linden Street bridge work did not remove the silt fence after the conclusion of the project.

As I mentioned in the September meeting, the only activity above the town had any role to play was the silt fence. The SAU and the Town are separate entities. I neglected to follow up with DPW on the silt fence question but will today. The Conservation Commission has no authority to take any actions on land they do not manage (in this case the Little River). As mentioned by a conservation commission member at the meeting, any Town-wide policy would need to be adopted by the Select Board, so town-wide policy requests should be directed to the Select Board.

The Conservation Commission did ask me to follow up with NHDES regarding the wetland complaint you filed about the railroad culvert being installed without a permit. I did inquire and they stated they had not received a wetland complaint. I shared that info with you previously.

The email that you sent in December was forwarded to the Conservation Commission as you asked. We did discuss it in the December meeting. That email listed the following concerns:

- 1) [Add hours of use.](#) I did.
- 2) [Add stop signs on the sign for the 3 unmarked boundaries to signify termination of public usage.](#) The sign states the property may be enjoyed by the public for on-trail passive recreation. Therefore I recommended and the Commission concurred additional stop signs on the map were unnecessary.
 - 2a) [Remove reference to the railroad.](#) It has been removed.
 - 2b) [Move the stop sign on the map off the Hennesy property.](#) It has been moved to the left to clearly sit on town property.
 - 2c) [Add a stop sign at the boundary of Hidden Meadow.](#) See 2 above

[Additional sentence \(no number\) No Hunting Signs.](#) I posted the no hunting signs and followed the property boundary using GPS based on a GIS file provided by the engineering firm who worked on your Hidden Meadow development. If they are incorrect I would like to meet with you onsite to see where this error is because it conflicts with the GIS info.

- 3a) [Delete the word beaver.](#) It has been removed.
- 3b) [Replace contiguous with adjacent.](#) It has been replaced.
- 3c) [Delete 5th paragraph, 4th sentence.](#) It has been removed.

On Wed, Dec 28, 2022 at 2:35 PM Brian Griset <grisetandsons@comcast.net> wrote:

Kristen,

There is currently no beaver activity on the Griset/Mendez conservation parcel, therefore a trapping permit is not necessary at this time.

The current flooding issues are caused by the activity on the Town property discussed in September and trapping and beaver control issues are the Town's responsibility.

Did you forward my emails to Andrew Koff and the Commission? I've receive no contact from anyone regarding those issues which included the Trailhead sign and what corrective actions the Town would take to offset the beaver flooding issues.

Have there been any public discussions by the Commission or the Select Board? I would like to be informed.

Brian Grisct

grisctandsons@comcast.net
603.686.1139

From: [Kristen Murphy](#)
Sent: Tuesday, December 27, 2022 4:18 PM
To: [Brian Grisct](#)
Subject: Re: Flooding morning Dec 23 2022

Hi Brian,

In your prior email you said you "have every intention to obtain a trapping permit from the Commission in the event beavers obstruct flow of the Scamen Brook flood plain which would damage my property". I did not take that to be your actual request. I can add you to the January CC agenda if you like.

Kristen

On Fri, Dec 23, 2022 at 11:32 AM Brian Grisct <grisctandsons@comcast.net> wrote:

Kristen,

Merry Christmas.

Have not heard back from you or the Commission in response to my email regarding the Conservation property and the beaver issue.

Relative to the beaver issue, I've received no update over the past three months related to our meeting with the Conservation Commission on September 13th.

From inspections done over the intervening period I cannot identify any corrective action by the Town to address the multiple beaver dams raising the water and water table levels.

To the contrary, I have documented the beaver activity increasingly raise dam levels and further add additional dams.

I have documented the resulting flooding on both the Conservation property and my property. Earlier this month water levels had reached over the boundary of my property by approximately 100 feet.

As the flood zone has been flooded by the beavers as a result of the Town's "unofficial policy" and resulting inaction , the rains last night have now expanded the encroaching water level by over 600 feet and have flooded the lower field and wooded area of my property. See the attached photo from my front porch.

I request that either you, the Conservation Commission or the Town Manager respond within the next week regarding what actions have taken place since the September 13th meeting and what immediate actions the Town will take to rectify this situation.

Brian Grisct

grisctandsons@comcast.net
603.686.1139

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Kristen Murphy
Conservation and Sustainability Planner
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