



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, December 12th, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.**

Call to Order:

1. Introduction of Members Present
2. Public Comment

Action Items:

1. Commemorative bench dedication and selection criteria
2. Underwater Camera purchase request
3. Town Report Topics/Photo Request
4. Request for Letter of Support from TPL for the LWCF grant application to fund the Newfield's portion of the Rugg property.
5. Committee Reports
 - a. Property Management
 - b. Trails
 - c. Outreach Events
 - d. Other Committee Reports (River Study, Sustainability, Energy/CPAC, Tree, CC Roundtable)
6. Approval of Minutes: 11/10/23 Meeting
7. Correspondence

Other Business

8. Next Meeting: Date Scheduled 1/9/24, Submission Deadline 12/29/23)

Andrew Koff

Exeter Conservation Commission

Revised and Re-Posted December 11th, 2023

Exeter Town Website www.exeternh.gov and Town Office kiosk.

ZOOM Public Access Information:

Virtual Meetings can be watched on Ch 22 or Ch 98 and YouTube.

To access the meeting, click this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82627758877>

To access the meeting via telephone, call: +1 646 558 8656 and enter the Webinar ID: 826 2775 8877

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 access the meeting 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 8th, 2023
To: Conservation Commission Board Members
From: Kristen Murphy, Natural Resource Planner
Subject: December 12th Conservation Commission Meeting

Commemorative Benches

The commemorative benches have been built and installed at Raynes. The subcommittee recommends the following for markers and criteria:

- 1) Markers – Large (3x5) plate “Honoring Those Who Provided A Decade of Service to the Exeter Conservation Commission.”
- 2) Based on 10 years of service:

>10 Years	> 12	> 15	> 20
Bill	Bill	Bill	Bill
Don C	Don C	Don C	Don C
Carlos	Carlos	Ginny	Peter Waltz
Ginny	Ginny	Peter Waltz	Jody Pellerin
Alyson	Don B	Jody Pellerin	
Pete	Rick Sugatt		
Don B	Peter Waltz		
Rick Sugatt	Jody Pellerin		
Tom Chamberlin			
Peter Waltz			
Jody Pellerin			

Underwater Camera

We are still working out details on how the camera will connect to the library internet but the specs for the camera are proposed to be:

[LINOVISION 4K POE IP Underwater Camera, Anti-Corrosion Underwater Camera](#)

- \$760 for 30 m camera cable

Suggested Motion: Approve the expenditure of up to \$800 for the purchase of

_____ *Approve the expenditure of up to \$800 for the purchase of an underwater camera for use in educational activities documenting local fish migration*



Kristen Murphy <kmurphy@exeternh.gov>

Fwd: Newfields-Exeter CF- Letter of Support

1 message

Andrew Koff <drewkoff@gmail.com>
To: Kristen Murphy <kmurphy@exeternh.gov>

Fri, Dec 8, 2023 at 7:17 PM

Lynnette mentioned this to me...

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Anne Read** <Anne.Read@tpl.org>
Date: Fri, Dec 8, 2023 at 4:21 PM
Subject: Newfields-Exeter CF- Letter of Support
To: drewkoff@gmail.com <drewkoff@gmail.com>
CC: Lynnette Batt <lynnette.batt@tpl.org>

Good afternoon Andrew,

I'm the Maine Land Protection Project Manager with Trust for Public Land. We are currently in the process of applying for a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant to support the acquisition and creation of the Newfields-Exeter Community Forest. This grant funding would support the larger 148-acre project and expand the existing town forest land in Newfields and Exeter. This project would create hiking, biking, and walking trails, expand upon existing public recreation opportunities in the area, and form part of a 1500 + acre block of "Unfragmented Forest" designated by state Wildlife Action Plan.

As a large part of the conservation, we believe that an endorsement from the Exeter Conservation Commission through a Letter of Support for this grant would strengthen our application. To be clear, this grant would **not** apply to the Exeter side of the land acquisition, but would support the larger project. If you are willing to show support for this grant, we would encourage you to add your own perspective on why the Exeter Conservation Commission supports this Community Forest Project. Feel free to use the attached LOS template to incorporate any language about the project. I also included a project overview to provide additional context. If you are able to send us a Letter of Support by some point next week that would be much appreciated.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to myself, or Lynnette Batt (the Project Manager on the NECF) at lynnette.batt@tpl.org.

Thank you so much for considering this request and supporting this work!

Have a great weekend,

Anne

Anne Read (she/her)

Maine Land Protection Project Manager



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2 attachments

 **Newfields-Exeter Community Forest Project Nov 2023.pdf**
6953K

 **NewfieldsExeter CF LOS template.docx**
17K

Exeter Conservation Commission
November 14, 2023
Wheelwright Room
10 Front Street
7:00 PM
Draft Minutes

Call to Order

1. Introduction of Members Present (by Roll Call)

Present at tonight’s meeting were by roll call, Chair Andrew Koff, Dave Short, Nick Campion, Kyle Welch, Keith Whitehouse, Alternate Valerie Fanger, and Alternate Michelle Crepeau.

Staff Present: Kristen Murphy, Conservation and Sustainability Planner

Mr. Koff called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, introduced the members and activated all of the alternates.

2. Public Comment

There was no one from the public present outside of agenda items.

Action Items

1. Webster Ave Pump Station and Force Main Upgrade (Britt Eckstrom, Wright Pierce)

Britt Eckstrom of Wright Pierce presented the application of behalf of the Exeter DPW for recommendation to NH DES for a Wetland Permit Application to upsize the existing pump station to meet the current and future demand. There will be 7,747 SF permanent and 7,400 SF temporary impacts to the tidal buffer and within the highest observable tide line.

Ms. Eckstrom indicated the 8” force main will be replaced with a 12” main and there will be a 24” culvert replacement in the same location. She described the planned demo of the existing pump station once the replacement is complete and the planned replacement of the generator. There will be new pavement for a turnaround for emergency vehicles and equipment. The lot site is within 100’ of the tidal buffer. She described restoration with loam and seeding and protection methods during construction such as silt fence and sock and monitoring. She noted that Marc Jacobs, a wetland scientist, delineated the site. There are some freshwater wetlands which are not impacted. Impact to migratory birds was discussed but determined there was no tree clearing and they will not be nesting in the construction area. There is no clearing in the new paved area.

43 The Commission discussed the potential for sea level rise and Ms. Eckstrom indicated the design is for 3'
44 above for critical infrastructure based on design guidance. She noted the DES guidance looks at the
45 lifespan of the structures, which in this case is 50-75 years.

46
47 Ms. Eckstrom described the timeframe for the project as a two-year duration starting in spring and
48 finishing in the summer of 2025.

49
50 Mr. Champion asked about the timeline coinciding with the Golf Course project across the street and Ms.
51 Murphy indicated DPW would coordinate that.

52
53 **Mr. Koff motioned that the Commission has reviewed the application and has no objection to the**
54 **application as proposed. Mr. Welch seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the**
55 **motion passed unanimously.**

56
57 Mr. Koff indicated he would send a memo to the state.

58
59 2. Committee Reports

60
61 a. Property Management

62
63 Ms. Murphy reported on Raynes Farm construction and what items had been completed and those
64 were need to be completed such as clapboard and trim which Mr. Bedford will not finish this year.
65 Some interior work can be done such as the second layer of flooring. She noted acceptance of the
66 \$20,000 Moose plate grant application and application for the \$50,000 Hometown Grant from T-
67 Mobile which will be determined in February. The Moose plate grant funding will be available for
68 two years. The Town deferred the project for at least a year. Ms. Murphy noted the remaining cost
69 is \$76,000 less the \$20,000 for the Moose Plate grant so \$56,000.

70
71 Ms. Murphy reported the mowing has been done. Mr. O'Hearn discovered a lean to near the Cole
72 Property. There have been several hunting issue calls which can be addressed with signage.

73
74 Ms. Murphy noted she was somewhat behind on monitoring and some of the members volunteered
75 to help.

76
77 Ms. Murphy reported that Sig Sauer volunteered time helping with bridges and planting.

78
79 b. Trails

80
81 Ms. Murphy reported signs were posted along the brook and Eversource has put up caution tape
82 where they are working.

83
84 The Commission thanked Mr. Whitehouse for his work cleaning up the trails on Continental and
85 Allen Street.

86

87 Ms. Murphy noted there used to be a trailhead marker and recommended 4x4 posts at the trail
88 could be a good project they could do.

89
90 c. Outreach Events

91
92 Ms. Murphy and Mr. Welch recommended a bird counting event seasonally with a point system for
93 unique bird identification and photographs. Ms. Murphy will add Mr. Welch as a contributor and
94 launch the contest in January. Mr. Campion noted the Merlin app was a good tool to identify birds
95 by sound.

96
97 d. Other Business

98
99 Ms. Murphy reviewed the Ryder and Rugg Property grant applications and site walks in November.
100 There are some issues with land owners and titles.

101
102 Ms. Murphy and Ms. Fanger attended the NHACC conference and discussed some interesting
103 funding done by East Kingston who did a \$4 million bond article over 20 years which will allow them
104 to bond as needed and not have to wait for town meeting for every project.

105
106 e. Other Committee Reports (River Study, Sustainability, Energy/CPAC, Tree, CC Roundtable)

107
108 3. Approval of Minutes

- 109
110 • October 10, 2023 Meeting

111
112 MOTION: Mr. Koff motioned to approve the October 10, 2023 Minutes. Mr. Welch seconded the
113 motion. A vote was taken: Mr. Short abstained, Ms. Crepeau abstained and Mr. Campion
114 abstained. The motion passed

115
116 4. Correspondence

117
118 5. Next Meeting; Date Scheduled 12/12/23, Submission Deadline 12/1/23

119
120 6. Adjournment

121
122 MOTION: Mr. Koff moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 PM seconded by Mr. Short. A vote was
123 taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

124
125 Respectfully submitted,

126
127 Daniel Hoijer, Recording Secretary
128 Via Exeter TV