

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 <u>Nowak Room</u>, Exeter Town Offices at 10 Front Street, Exeter on **Tuesday**, February 13th, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.

Call to Order:

- 1. Introduction of Members Present
- 2. Public Comment

Action Items:

- Request for commission recommendation on the acquisition of 0.45 acres from 8 Hampton Road (Tax Map 69 Lot 6), identified as Parcel A on the attached plan, to be combined with 4 Hampton Road (Tax Map 69 Lot 4) for the purposes of acquiring the land supporting and surrounding Planet Playground.
- 2. Native Seed Library Update and Purchase Request
- 3. Earth Day Student Tree Project and Purchase Request
- 4. Sustainable Film Series Rain Barrel Kits
- 5. Committee Reports
 - a. Property Management
 - b. Trails
 - c. Outreach Events
 - i. February Full Moon Snowshoe (2/22—registration required <u>kmurphy@exeternh.gov</u>)
 - ii. Exploring Exeter Collaborative with Parks 3:00 2/27, 3/27, 4/24, 5/22
 - iii. Heard Bird Contest Ongoing
 - d. Other Committee Reports (River Study, Sustainability, Energy, Tree, CC Roundtable)
 i. Public Presentation on Pickpocket Dam Feasibility Study: 2/27 at 6:30 pm
- 6. Approval of Minutes: 1/9/24 Meeting
- 7. Discuss 3/12/24 Meeting Town Meeting Date
- 8. Correspondence

Other Business

9. Next Meeting: Potentially 3/12/24**TOWN MEETING**, Submission Deadline 3/1/24

Andrew Koff

Exeter Conservation Commission

Posted February 9th, 2024 Exeter Town Website <u>www.exeternh.gov</u> 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: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88047558804</u>

To access the meeting via telephone, call: +1 646 558 8656 and enter the Webinar ID: 880 4755 8804

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:	February 9 th , 2024
To:	Conservation Commission Board Members
From:	Kristen Murphy, Conservation & Sustainability Planner
Subject:	February 13 th , Meeting

1. Land Acquisition:

Exeter Parks and Recreation have been working with the abutting property Exeter NH Propco LLC to acquire the land surrounding Planet Playground at 4 Hampton Road. As required in accordance with NH RSA 41:14-a, the Select board must first obtain a recommendation from the Conservation Commission (among others). I have attached a plan indicating the location in your packet.

Suggested Motion:

To send a memo to the Select Board indicating we [recommend] [do not recommend] the acquisition of 0.45 acres indicated as 'Parcel A' in the plan provided entitled "Lot Line Adjustment at 4 and 8 Hampton Road".

2. Seed Library

PEA student Hawley Dick was looking for a project for their Human Population and Resource Consumption class. She was specifically interested in a pollinator project. I suggested the idea of revamping our native seed library. We were able to secure seeds though the Pollinator Pathways seed swap program but I am requesting funds for the items needed to create the display.

Suggested Motion:

_____ Approve the expenditure of up to \$100 from the Conservation Land Administration budget line for the purposes of building a native seed library.

3. Earth Day Student Contest:

The Exeter tree committee is working with the Green Teams from Lincoln and Main Street Schools to host a "hug a tree" contest to encourage the students to recognize the NH Big Trees we have here in Exeter. As part of the prize, they would like to offer <u>Arbor Day Foundation items</u> as prizes and are requesting funding in support of this project.

Suggested Motion:

Approve the expenditure of up to \$150 from the Conservation Land Administration budget line for the purposes of ordering prizes for the student project.

3. Sustainable Seasons Film Series:

I have been looking into creating a 4-event Sustainable Film Festival. Each film's topic would be paired with an action that individuals can take to reduce their environmental impact. PEA student Andrew Voulgarelis, wanted to take on developing the theme for the film series and selecting/coordinating the

first film as part of a school project. I wanted to 1) share his idea in hopes you will join us and 2) hope to solicit your support for the spring film but with funding but also volunteers to help decide on the film and host.

Sustainable Seasons Film Series

Join us for a new film series, Sustainable Seasons. This four event program weaves together compelling movies and real-life actions, inspiring our town to make a positive impact. Each season presents a different sustainability problem with a small-scale solution. Engage with thought-provoking films, then step into action with hands-on initiatives – a clothing recycling drive, rain barrel distribution, custom reusable grocery bags, and customized compost bins. Sustainable Seasons aims not just to educate but to empower, creating a community-driven movement towards a greener, more sustainable future.

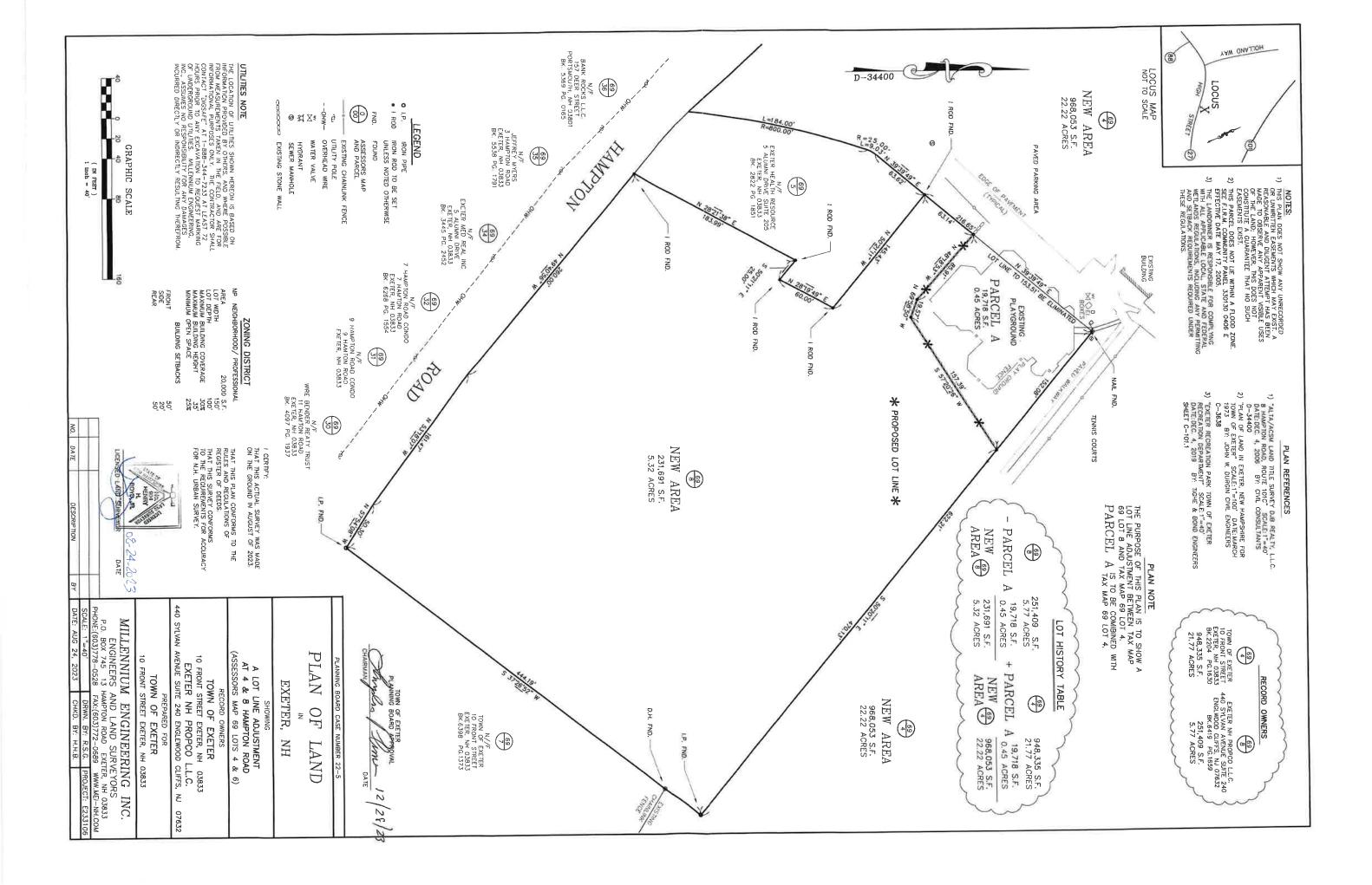
Winter - Threads of Change: What is fast fashion? What can we do about it? Join us for a film that helps us understand the impacts of fast fashion while also offering small individual solutions.

Film - Alex James: Slowing Down Fast Fashion

Activity - Helpsy donation drive of clean, used clothing to recycle.

Suggested Motion:

Approve the expenditure of up to \$500 from the Conservation Land Administration budget line for the purposes of ordering kits to outfit 10 rain barrels.



1	Exeter Conservation Commission
2	January 9, 2024
3	Novak Room
4	10 Front Street
5	7:00 PM
6	Draft Minutes
7	Draft Windtes
, 8	Call to Order
9	
10	1. Introduction of Members Present (by Roll Call)
11	1. Introduction of Members (Fesche (by Kon early
12	Present at tonight's meeting were by roll call, Chair Andrew Koff, Vice-Chair Trevor Mattera, Dave Short,
13	Connor Madison, Kyle Welch, Keith Whitehouse, Alternate Valerie Fanger, Alternate Michelle Crepeau,
14	Alternate Bill Campbell (remotely), Alternate Don Clement (remotely) and Nancy Belanger, Select Board
15	Representative (remotely)
16	
17	Staff Present: Kristen Murphy, Conservation and Sustainability Planner
18	
19	Mr. Koff called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, introduced the members and activated Alternate
20	Valerie Fanger.
21	
22	2. Public Comment
23	
24	There was no one from the public present outside of agenda items.
25	
26	Action Items
27	
28	1. Connect to Protect Grant/Support Opportunity
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30	Ms. Murphy reported that an email was received from Lisa Wise at UNH Cooperative Extension Connect
31	to Protect program. She noted it is a service grant of time to complete a project. Ms. Murphy
32	recommended two potential projects. The first recommendation is to develop a project checklist and
33	the second recommendation is to update the GIS files in Granite. She noted the work would move
34	forward as a subcommittee over 2-4 months. The application deadline is Friday, February 3 rd .
35	
36	Mr. Short, Mr. Koff and Mr. Mattera indicated their support of updating the GIS. Ms. Murphy noted it
37	would be helpful to put the Commission to move forward when the NRI, last done in 2012, is updated.
38	Mr. Koff recommended identifying people on the Commission who would be interested in working with
39	them and starting the application.
40	
41	MOTION: Mr. Koff motioned to apply to the Connect to Protect service grant program. Mr. Short
42	seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed 7-0-0.
43	

44 45	2. Request for Letter of Support from TPL for the Community Forest grant application
46 47 48	Ms. Murphy reported receiving an email from Lynette and Ann with the Trust for Public Land requesting an additional letter of support for a US Community Forest Grant of \$400,000 to benefit Newfields.
49 50 51 52 53 54	Mr. Short asked why if Exeter is partnering with Newfields aren't the grants being shared. Ms. Murphy explained that Newfields is poised and ready to put something on the ballot this year and they want to see community support. Mr. Short asked if they would make an equal effort for Exeter and Ms. Murphy indicated yes, at different times. She noted development of a community management plan would accompany the grant. Ms. Murphy indicated the Ruggs did not want to move forward without Exeter and their access is on the Newfield's side.
55 56 57 58 59 60	Mr. Koff asked if there were any update on the legal review and Ms. Murphy indicated there is a claim of ownership by the Ruggs and the Town of Exeter and the Ruggs hired a surveyor to study the deeds. Ms. Murphy noted Exeter's legal counsel has hired a licensed surveyor who is also a land law lawyer and they expect to hear something mid-January.
60 61 62 63 64	MOTION: Mr. Short motioned to authorize Drew Koff to sign the Letter of Support for the grant application for Newfields Exeter Community Forest project. Mr. Mattera seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed 7-0-0.
65 66	3. Committee Reports
67 68	a. Property Management
69 70	i. Raynes
71 72 73 74	Ms. Murphy reported that Steve Bedard's contract was extended an additional year and she is waiting to hear from L-Chip concerning the extension approval, which she noted is not complicated at this stage.
75 76 77	Ms. Murphy reported that she filed a grant application with the Hometown grant and should hear something in February. She noted that Mr. Bedard has no issue working while another contractor works on different parts of the barn.
78 79 80	b. Trails
81 82	i. Utility project
83 84 85	Ms. Murphy reported that the fence seems to have been taken down but she has had no official word on trail closures.

86	ii. Deer Carcass
87	
88	Ms. Murphy reported correspondence has come in from multiple sources concerning a dead
89	deer near the parking area and Fish & Game has been notified.
90	
91	c. Outreach Events
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93	i. February Full Moon Snowshoe (2/24 full moon – event date t/b/d)
94	
95	The Commission agreed to advertise a pop-up snowshoe event close to school vacation and wait
96	to watch for the best weather and announce the date. Mr. Koff is available until February 22 nd
97	and Mr. Welch noted he can lead the event if on the 23 rd or 24 th . Ms. Crepeau recommended
98	reaching out to Recreation to see if their snowshoes can be available to use.
99	
100	ii. Heard Bird Contest
101	
102	Mr. Welch reported 13 sightings but noted that no reports were posed on the Facebook page.
103	He recommended Conservation stickers for prizes.
104	
105	d. Other Committee Reports (River Study, Sustainability, Energy/CPAC, Tree, CC Roundtable)
106	
107	Ms. Murphy reported there will be a presentation on the Feasibility Study for Pickpocket Dam at City
108	Hall on February 27 th at 6:30 PM.
109	
110	6. Approval of Minutes - December 12, 2023 Meeting
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112	MOTION: Mr. Koff motioned to approve the December 12, 2023 meeting minutes. Mr. Mattera
113	seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed 7-0-0.
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115	7. Correspondence
116	
117	Ms. Murphy reported that a permit by notification was received for the Linden Street bridge over the
118	Exeter River. No signature from the Commission is required. A staging area will be set up for
119	equipment. Ms. Murphy will reach out to landowners.
120	
121	8. Next Meeting; Date Scheduled 2/13/24, Submission Deadline 2/2/24
122	
123	

124 9. <u>Adjournment</u>

- 125
- 126 MOTION: Mr. Short motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 PM. Mr. Koff seconded the
- 127 motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed 7-0-0.
- 128 Respectfully submitted,
- 129 Daniel Hoijer, Recording Secretary
- 130 Via Exeter TV
- 131 Zoom ID 840 9822 7220

JOIN THE EXETER CONSERVATION COMMISSION FOR THEIR ANNUAL

Feb 24* 6:30 pm

*Date is Weather Dependent Sign Up Required kmurphy@exeternh.gov