

Exeter River Advisory Committee Approved Minutes September 20, 2018

Town of Exeter
River Advisory Committee
Nowak Room
September 20, 2018
3:00 PM
Approved Minutes

1. Convene Meeting

Chairman Huber convened the meeting at 3:05 PM on September 20, 2018. In attendance were Committee members: Richard Huber, Chairman, Lionel Ingram, Dan Jones, Terrie Harmon, Virginia Raub, Conservation Representative. Also present were: Paul Vlasich, Town Engineer.

2. Approve Minutes – August 23, 2018 - Tabled

3. Update (Various River Related Activities) – Paul Vlasich, Town Engineer

Paul Vlasich, the Town Engineer presented an update on various topics related to the river ways.

1. Pickpocket Dam

Mr. Vlasich advised that Pickpocket Dam has been reclassified with a whole new set of rules. The Town had a draft letter of deficiency.

To solve those, the Town would put together a \$400,000 CIP lump all into the current year. The cost of the first three tasks would be \$120,000.00.

The Tasks are:

- Update the Emergency Action Plan – if the Dam gets in trouble or there is a large storm;

There are some comments on breach analysis, more specific information on a couple of items. It doesn't change the classification to the higher level.

- Request because of high hazard, evaluate a base storm, 2.5 times the 100 year event;
- Lastly to evaluate options to modify the Dam for compliance

2. The Great Dam (Agreement for 106 Project)

Mr. Vlasich reported that all projects are now done.

Stated that it was worth visiting the Library to look at the panel on display. The etched glass version of the Dam is in place. There were no photos, so consultants built a model and insert into various other pictures of the Dam. If you look, at the right time you can see what it used to look like. There is an Interpretive panel, 9 photos in the hallway.

Because the grant was accepted, monitoring has been extended from 2-3 years to 5 years total. Mr. Vlasich advised that the river bottom is being monitored.

Surveying will be done within the next couple of months.

All were put in a report and sent to the Wetlands Bureau.

3. Exeter River

Mr. Vlasich reported that the Town had a Letter of Deficiency with two properties endangered, if it failed.

The Planning Board began its CIP process last week.

Mr. Ingram asked with the Select Board representative not here, what would the role of the Advisory Board be moving forward.

Mr. Vlasich advised that if Task 3 gets financed we would know the answer to that.

4. Nitrogen Control Plan Presentation (Wright-Pierce and Horsley Witten)

At the last meeting, Mr. Leonard of Wright-Pierce and Ms. Bourdeau of Horsley Witten presented PowerPoint presentations on developing the Nitrogen Control Plan which is required of the AOC (Administrative Order on Consent) by the end of September, which were presented to the Select Board in July.

Mr. Jones asked Mr. Vlasich what happens to the nitrogen when it is removed, does it become part of the sludge which is often recycled back in via fertilizer. Mr. Vlasich stated that he will try to find out the answer to that question.

There needs to be more emphasis on non-point items, such as improved septic. Ms. Raub indicated concerns with tracking loss of impervious surfaces collectively.

Mrs. Raub stated that the DPW was doing a great job with its Facebook page.

Mr. Vlasich advised that the MS4 stormwater permit would be completed at the end of this month and sent to the EPA.

5. Notice of Vacancies in the Membership of the River Advisory Committee of Exeter

Chairman Huber welcomed Dan Jones as an official member today. There were the following vacancies:

PEA. Missing a representative from PEA.

Water/Sewer.

Ms. Harmon asked about having high school students from PEA. On the Historical Society they had a Junior and Senior rotate out. Perhaps a group at PEA could rotate out.

6. Other Business

Chair Huber, who is a member of the Active Retirement Association, Continuing Education at UNH, advised that they are having a Science in Your Backyard Program which has 3 presentations, (those wishing to attend would come as guest of a member) at Durham Community Church venue:

Sea Level Rise & Vulnerable Cultural Heritage Sites of Coastal NH presented by Meghan Howie, Professor, Earth Systems Research Center at UNH;

October 4th Salt Water Intrusion & Its Impacts presented by Jane Knot, UNH;

October 11th Rising Carbon Emissions Impact on NH Climate – Prof William Wolfheim, UNH

7. Public Comment

(Strip of Land – Fish Species Kiosk Proposal)

Bob Glowacky of EX-TV had filmed an underwater migration of fish species and proposed installing an informative kiosk along the right of way to the right of the string bridge. It was uncertain who owned the right-of-way. Mr. Vlasich advised that his plans show the right-of-way as “apparent” right-of-way to the Town. There are utility poles, conduit, catch basins and high chain link fence for safety reasons. Mr. Vlasich will get a copy of the plan.

Chair Huber advised that Mr. Glowacky would ultimately need to gather more information, put together a proposal of his plans and go to the BOS for approval and that the Advisory Committee did not do funding of any kind.

The Next Meeting of the Exeter River Advisory Committee will be on Thursday, November 15, 2018 at 3:00 PM.

Chair Huber asked for input ideas for the next agenda which will include Mr. Vlasich and hopefully someone from Prep and Melissa Paly Piscataway River Water Keeper. Ms. Harmon will ask her. Mrs. Raub will reach out to the Prep people.

8. Adjourn

Chairman Huber by motion made and duly seconded by Mrs. Raub and approved unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 3:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Hoijer,
Recording Secretary
Via Townhallstreams.com