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**Town of Exeter
Swasey Parkway Trustees Meeting
July 19, 2023
5:00 PM
Approved Minutes**

1. Call Meeting to Order:

Chair Staples called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and introduced the members who were present

2. Introductions:

Present were: Chair Dwane Staples, Vice-Chair Darius Thompson, and Select Board representative Niko Papakonstantis

3. Public Comment

Chair Staples asked if there were any comments from the public at 5:01 PM and there were none.

4. Approve Minutes 6/21/23

Chair Staples motioned to approve the June 21, 2023 site walk meeting minutes. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

5. Update on no dog sign

Mr. Thompson recommended adding the ordinance language to the sign template to be consistent with other park signs in town. He indicated he will have prototypes to bring to the next meeting. Selectman Papakonstantis recommended reaching out to Jay from DPW for painting the stencils on the Parkway.

6. Planting along fence behind Harris Center and Tree and Shrub Pruning

Chair Staples reported that Mr. Short got an estimate for grinding the stumps of \$1,000. He recommended removing the root that goes under the asphalt before the Phillips Exeter Academy lot.

Chair Staples motioned to expend up to \$1,500 to grind the stumps. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

39 **7. Sewer Project**

40 Select Board Representative Papakonstantis reported the contractors ran into another issue
41 Thursday, a mechanical issue. The town put out a press release to inform residents. Work is
42 scheduled to continue in the next few days and a surveyor is being brought in. The work is
43 expected to be complete in a couple of weeks. There will be a vote at the Tuck Center on
44 August 15th from 7-8 PM concerning the warrant article.

45 Chair Staples indicated he attended the deliberative session, and it was unfortunate that they
46 ran into so many challenges but something has to get done.

47 **8. Tree Pruning**

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49 Chair Staples questioned what action the Trustees should take to protect the five ash trees from
50 Emerald Ash Borer infestation. The estimated cost to treat them with a systemic insecticide is
51 \$1,625 for the five trees and would need to be done every 12-18 months and there is no
52 guarantee it will protect them. Other treatments can be investigated further. Another
53 consideration he noted is the flooding that will likely increase in future years. He noted the town
54 has a tree budget and it may be worthwhile to discuss this with the Tree Committee. Selectman
55 Papakonstantis noted the Tree Committee was coming to the Select Board meeting on Monday
56 and agreed they should collaborate.

57
58 **9. Other Business**

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60 Chair Staples recommended reaching out to Mark for a list of potential volunteers to help with
61 weeding and staining benches. He reported the contractor hired for Norris Brook did some
62 weeding with no charge to the town.

63
64 Mr. Thompson reminded residents that COVID is still out there and to take necessary
65 precautions. He reminded residents to protect themselves from the sun and thanked the Chair
66 and town employees for their hard work.

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68 **10. Next Meeting Date**

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70 Chair Staples indicated he had a conflict on August 16, 2023. Mr. Thompson proposed meeting
71 on August 23rd.

72
73 ***Mr. Thompson motioned to change the next meeting date from August 16 to August 23.***
74 ***Chair Staples seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion***
75 ***passed unanimously.***

76
77 Chair Staples will let Pam know so that she can update the posting.

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79 The next meeting will be on August 23, 2023.

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82 **11. Adjourn**

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84 ***Mr. Thompson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:22 PM. Chair Staples seconded the***
85 ***motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.***

86 Respectfully submitted,

87 Daniel Hoijer

88 Recording Secretary

89 (via *ExeterTv.com*)