

**Town of Exeter
Swasey Parkway Trustees Meeting
Nowak Room
May 21, 2025
5:00 PM
Draft 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 Dave Short

Others Present:

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment, outside of agenda items.

4. Approval of Minutes

April 16, 2025 Public Meeting Minutes

Mr. Thompson motioned to approve the April 16, 2025 minutes. Mr. Short seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously 3-0-0.

5. Coastal Resiliency Meaningful Engagement Training

Chair Staples noted that he will find out from Kristen Murphy when is a good time to meet. He will send the training information to the trustees.

6. Update on Turn Around and Input received from public

Chair Staples asked if anyone had received feedback concerning the new turnaround. Mr. Thompson observed that one of the stakes to guide people from off the grass is repeatedly being broken. Mr. Short noted that curbing was discussed, people are making a big swing. He asked if Steve Cronin should be involved with the water puddles in back of the parking area. He recommended having it shimmed to create a positive flow to the roadway drain.

Mr. Thompson noted that the portapotty should be moved. Chair Staples noted he received a photograph of it under water and had emailed to ask about moving it. The trustees discussed locations. Mr. Thompson recommended where the no parking sign is at the edge of the hill. Chair Staples will send another email.

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46 **7. Tree Committee & Planting Recommendations**
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48 Mr. Short noted he hasn't talked to the Tree Committee but his personal choice would be a
49 yellow wood. Chair Staples asked if there should be two, since two were removed. Mr. Short
50 recommended a sweet gum as well and both with a 2 to 2.5" caliper. He noted Jay and Kirk at
51 Highway do a nice job with planting. Chair Staples will reach out to them. Mr. Thompson noted
52 he was okay with whatever Mr. Short recommended. The trustees discussed timing and agreed
53 the fall would be best to conserve watering. Select Board Representative Papakonstantis noted
54 the Tree Committee was waiting until fall for the same reason. He noted they have an app for
55 inventory of town trees. Chair Staples noted an inventory was done a few years ago.

56
57 Mr. Short noted the birch behind the housing authority is beginning to rot and leans to the
58 sidewalk. Mr. Short will ask Will to take a look at it. Mr. Thompson noted he was fine with it
59 being taken down.
60

61 **8. Update on graffiti on block building**
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63 Mr. Thompson thanked his wife, Kathy, and also Mark Damsell for help with painting the block
64 building. Mr. Damsell donated some old paint that was a match.
65

66 Mr. Thompson asked who is responsible for the building, the trustees or the town? Chair
67 Staples noted that the trustees had it built, redid the roof 3-4 years ago and pays for the electric
68 bill. He noted the trustees use to house parkway equipment back when they hired someone to
69 mow. The irrigation system is inside also. Currently Parks & Recreation store some items there
70 and they allowed Teams to store items for their summer concerts. In the past the trustees
71 stored pavers and fence posts. The trustees had the building rekeyed and replaced the door
72 when they did the roof. Mr. Thompson asked how many keys were out there. Chair Staples
73 noted he had one, Mark Damsell had one and Parks & Recreation has one. Mr. Thompson will
74 get a key from Mark and noted that as long as Parks & Recreation were opening and closing it
75 for Teams it would be fine.
76

77 Mr. Short noted he was not concerned if the building was being utilized.
78

79 Mr. Thompson asked about installing a security camera so that the graffiti won't happen again.
80 It costs time, energy and effort to repair that. Mr. Short noted he would be concerned for the
81 camera and there is no WiFi.
82

83 Mr. Thompson noted there is a live electric outlet on the exterior. Mr. Short recommended
84 waiting until the electric is abused before doing anything like a lock. Chair Staples will see if the
85 outlet can be turned off from inside the building.
86
87

88 **9. Street Lights**

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90 Mr. Short asked why the lights in the Parkway are on all night, past when the parkway is closed.
91 Chair Staples noted that some of the components are old, some are newer and he doesn't
92 believe they are communicating. Chair Staples will ask Jeff.

93
94 **10. Other Business**

95
96 Mr. Short noted there are grubs in the area of the lawn behind the Academy Daycare between
97 the sidewalk and roadway. Chair Staples recommended contacting Bio Spray and Lavardi from
98 Brentwood about using a preventative. Mr. Thompson recommended a quick site walk. The
99 trustees will meet on Saturday at 8 AM. Chair Staples will ask Pam to post the meeting.

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101
102 **11. Next Meeting Date: Site Walk: May 24, 2025 at 8 AM**
103 **June 18, 2025**
104

105 **12. Adjourn**

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107 ***Mr. Thompson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:37 PM. Mr. Short seconded the***
108 ***motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.***

109 Respectfully submitted,

110 Daniel Hoijer
111 Recording Secretary
112 (via *ExeterTv.com*)