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**Town of Exeter
Swasey Parkway Trustees Meeting
Nowak Room
March 18, 2026
5:00 PM
Draft Minutes**

7 **Members Present:** Chair Dwane Staples, Vice-Chair Dave Short, and Darius Thompson

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9 **Others Present:** Select Board Representative Niko Papakonstantis

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11 **1. Call Meeting to Order**

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13 Chair Staples called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and introduced the members who were
14 Present. Mr. Thompson congratulated the reappointed trustees.

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16 **2. Public Comment**

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18 **3. Approval of Minutes**

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20 **February 18, 2026 Public Meeting Minutes**

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22 Chair Staples recommended edits.

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24 ***Mr. Short motioned to approve the February 18, 2026 minutes, as amended. Mr.***
25 ***Thompson seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed***
26 ***unanimously 3-0-0.***

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28 **4. Coastal Resiliency**

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30 Mr. Thompson reported that there will be an input session on March 23, 2026 from 6-8 PM at
31 the Seacoast School of Technology at 40 Linden Street. He provided a link:
32 bit.ly/resilentswasey He encouraged those who use the Parkway or vendors such as the
33 Farmer's Market who host events to provide their feedback. It is important to make the Parkway
34 more resilient and people can participate in person or by taking the survey. Input will help
35 determine priorities.

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37 **5. Pruning**

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39 Chair Staples noted a broken tree that he will take care of after the snow melts. The Trustees
40 will have a site walk at the next meeting to see what needs to be done. Mr. Short asked how
41 long ago the Arbor Day pruning was and Chair Staples indicated four or five years. He will
42 mention it to Will and see if they would consider doing it again.

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44 **6. Academy letter for helping**

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Chair Staples will reach out, after their break, to the Academy to see what their interests are in helping out.

7. Sewer Project in Parkway

Chair Staples indicated that he sent an email to the Trustees from Steve Dalton. The project was supposed to take a couple of weeks, but they have run into challenges. The frac tanks are in place.

8. Other Business

Mr. Short noted that he talked to Eileen Flockhart at the Tree Committee. They want to do something to celebrate the birch tree on Saturday, May 16th in the afternoon and encourage people to send in photos and stores. Chair Staples will get the photo from Mark Damsell. The tree is approximately 50-70 years old which is a long time for a birch.

Chair Staples noted he is making a list of trees that he researched that are flood resilient and will get a list together for the Trustees and get back to Jean on that. Chair Staples noted that many of the existing species survived. Mr. Short and Chair Staples agreed a Chinese elm would be good for the location across from the pavilion.

8. Next Meeting Date: April 15, 2026 site walk at 4:30 PM

9. Adjourn

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

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel Hoijer
Recording Secretary