

Exeter Conservation Commission

July 10, 2012

Call to Order

Acting Chairman Ginny Raub called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm in the Nowak Room in the Exeter Town Office Building. Members present were Carlos Guindon, Maggie Matick, Russell Kaphan, Mike Field, Peter Richardson, Jay Gregoire, Alyson Eberhardt, Board of Selectman's Representative Don Clement, and Kristen Murphy the Town's Natural Resource Planner.

There was no public comment.

Action Items

1. Andy Morrill of Wright Pierce presented an overview of the Jady Hill Phase II Utility Replacement project planned by the Department of Public Works. The project involves separating stormwater that currently flows from residential homes into the sewer system (via sump pumps, street drains, etc) and connecting it to a stormdrain system that discharges into the wetland at the end of Haven Lane and into the prime wetland adjacent to Webster Ave. The project will require 95 sq. ft of permanent wetland impact to the Haven Lane wetland and 665 sq. ft. temporary impact to the prime wetland buffer within the existing roadbed. The application was accepted by the NH Department of Environmental Services. Based on questions posed by the Conservation Commission the following items were clarified:
 - a. The drainage study determined that this project would not significantly increase the amount of water draining into the wetlands and no resizing of culverts were needed
 - b. The addition of catchbasins to the stormdrain system will assist with the removal of sediment and is the only form of treatment proposed prior to release into the wetlands. The catchbasins will be cleaned out in accordance with DPW cleaning schedule. Mr. Morrill will determine what this frequency is and would provide that information to the Conservation Commission at a future time.

Ms. Matick motioned to submit a memo to NH Department of Environmental Services on behalf of the Conservation Commission recommending approval of the project and to support the expedited review of the project. The motion was seconded by Jay Gregoire. Motion carried.

2. Ms. Murphy presented a request from Bob Kelly and Steven Shope for reimbursement of materials for wetland crossing repairs they had done in the Oaklands Town Forest. She indicated that they recognized they are typically required to request permission prior to making the improvements but they had an opportunity and volunteers willing to help with the labor.

Mr. Richardson recommended sending a note to thank them but to acknowledge that in the future they are to contact the Commission prior to completing the work. He pointed out that even a phone call under this circumstance would have been acceptable. This perspective was echoed by Russell Kaphan who agreed that often these crossings are in sensitive areas and as a result it is important the Commission have an ability to review proposals prior to implementing them.

Mr. Kaphan motioned to approve \$281.34 from the town funds for reimbursement of the supplies. Mr. Richardson seconded. Motion carried.

Regular Business

3. There was no Treasurer's Report for this month
4. Approval of minutes of June 12, 2012 meeting

Draft Minutes

Ms. Eberhardt noted to replace the EZRI with ESRI on page 1. With no other edits Mr. Richardson moved to accept the minutes as revised. Mr. Guindon seconded. Motion carried.

5. Natural Resource Planners Report.

Ms. Murphy noted that the YMCA plans for the old high school building have been submitted and they are scheduled for technical review on July 24th and scheduled to go before the Planning Board on August 23rd. She also noted the Sportsman's Club is presenting their sound attenuation for the shooting range to the Planning Board on July 12th. Plans for both of these projects are available for review in her office.

6. Other Business

Mr. Clement presented an Eagle Scout project that is proposed for the perimeter of the Exeter Reservoir within the area leased by the Sportsman's Club as it was described at the previous Board of Selectman's meeting. He requested clarification from the Commission on what they felt their involvement should be. The project is unique in that the majority of people do not fish beyond the gate. The scout had indicated that the Sportsman's Club will help with what minimal maintenance may be needed. The scout had coordinated with Ms. Murphy and Mr. Clement prior to the Board of Selectman's meeting. It was recommended Ms. Murphy and Mr. Clement work on oversight of the project with the scout.

Mr. Kaphan said he had tried to reach the New England Mountain Biking Association president but had not heard back. Ms. Murphy said she would coordinate a trail committee meeting in order to determine what future trail project needs there may be in order to inform the Commission's fall budget request for trail maintenance. Mr. Gregoire stated he would be interested in being involved with the Trail Committee.

Mr. Clement provided an update on the Norris Brook culvert repair.

Mr. Guindon gave an overview of his kayaking trip along the Exeter River from Gilman Park to Court Street.

Ms. Raub pointed out the availability of the Natural Resource Inventory to new members.

Mr. Clement recommended the Conservation Commission adjourn the regular meeting and enter into a work session to discuss who would be the next acting chair. Mr. Richardson motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Gregoire. Motion carried.

Work Session

Acting Chair

Mr. Guindon agreed to chair the August, September and October meetings provided we can adjust the date of the August meeting to the 7th. The Committee agreed. Mr. Kaphan agreed to chair November, December and January meetings.

Next meeting date will be August 7th, 2012 [note date change]

With no further business Mr. Clement motioned to adjourn the work session; seconded by Ms. Matick. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Murphy
Natural Resource Planner