

**As Approved at the May 10, 2016  
Conservation Commission Meeting**

**Exeter Conservation Commission  
FINAL MINUTES  
April 12, 2016**

**Call to Order**

Jay Gregoire, called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm in the Nowak Room of the Exeter Town Offices on the above date.

1. MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Campbell, Andrew Koff, Jay Gregoire (Chair), Anne Surname, Alyson Eberhardt, Kristen Murphy

Staff Present: Kristen Murphy (Natural Resource Planner), Sarah McGraw (Recording Secretary)

2. Public Comment: None

Mr. Gregoire requested a moment of silence for the passing of commission member Pete Richardson. Mr. Gregoire stated that he was an advocate for the commission and the commission was fortunate to have had him. There was discussion about designating a memorial for Pete such as naming Raynes Bridge or a conservation area after him.

**Action Items**

1. Membership Update and Officer Elections

Mr. Gregoire stated that Maggie Matick had resigned including his own resignation. He said that Ginny Raub and Carlos Guindon volunteered to act as voting members. Ms. Murphy explained that the commission should turn over 1/3 of its members after speaking with Sheri Riffle. Updated voting members include Carlos Guindon, Ginny Raub, Cynthia Field, Andrew Koff, Alyson Eberhardt, and Bill Campbell plus a Board of Selectmen representative. Ms. Eberhardt noted that there should be a process for training new board members as recommended at the All Boards Meeting. Carlos Guindon not present at the meeting offered to be chair as long as someone filled in when he was out of the country. Mr. Campbell offered to be vice chair to run meetings as needed. Ms. Raub was also not present did not wish to renew her position as treasurer. Mr. Koff volunteered to be treasurer. Ms. Raub would resume the role as clerk.

2. Treasurers Report: None

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3. Budget Planning and Expenditure Requests

Ms. Murphy stated that the forester needed to be paid before revenues from logging were collected so the funds came out of the town budget. There will also be additional expense for invasive species removal.

Ms. Murphy requested the expenditure request for \$235.00 for the spring tree program put on by Peter Waltz for 5<sup>th</sup> graders. The expense pays for the trees, and packaging. Ms. Eberhardt asked if there were options for kids without yards. It was also suggested that the Commission promotes itself on the trees brought home. Ms. Murphy said she will reach out to Pete Waltz to discuss advertising. Tree packing will take place around April 30. Mr. Campbell and Ms. Surname volunteered to help.

*Mr. Campbell motioned to approve the expenditure of \$235.00 for the spring tree program, second by Mr. Gregoire. **VOTE:** Unanimous*

*Ms. Eberhardt motioned to approve the expenditure of \$17.91 from the Conservation Land Administration budget category to reimburse purchases used in locating conservation property boundaries, second by Mr. Campbell. **VOTE:** Unanimous*

Ms. Murphy explained that the dues for the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commission increased from \$572 to \$629. Ms. Eberhardt asked what the benefits were. Ms. Murphy said that the organization provides legislative support to the commissions, they lobby for the Conservation Commissions, hold an annual meeting and provide educational programs for members.

*Ms. Eberhardt motioned to approve the expenditure of 629 from the dues category for NHACC annual dues, second by Mr. Gregoire. **VOTE:** Unanimous*

4. Master Plan Update Representative Selection

Ms. Raub who was not present had expressed interest in the position.

5. Proposed Legislative Amendment for RSA 36-A

Ms. Murphy reported that the proposed had been removed.

6. Committee Reports

a. Property Management

Mr. Campbell spoke about the Allen Street property. Letters were sent to property owners that abutted the property and who may have encroached the easement. They were asked to remove anything that may be encroaching the easement.

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b. Trails

Ms. Murphy said that the logging trails were in rough shape. There should be an open forum about logging. Ms. Murphy suggested not starting mitigation efforts until the logging work is done.

Ms. Eberhardt suggested a site walk of the trails, she noted it was hard to navigate without prior knowledge of the trail system. Ms. Eberhardt suggested a planning session with defined objectives.

c. Outreach

May 4<sup>th</sup> is the Healthy Lawns Clean Water Forum from 6-9pm. May 14 is the Swasey Parkway Soil Testing demonstration with UNH Cooperative Extension.

Ms. Murphy also noted the SOAK NH model rain garden initiative on West Side Drive. Rain barrels are also on sale on the town website.

7. Approval of Minutes: March 1, 2016

The minutes were tabled due to not enough voting members in attendance.

8. Correspondence

Ms. Murphy noted a request to sponsor envirothon participants. It was suggested not to donate this year as the budget is tight.

Ms. Eberhardt noted the Conservation Commission round table meetings she attends along with other Commission members around the seacoast. They share needs and useful information. They meet once a month a Monday at 8:30 am. Ms. Eberhardt said she would share location details. Ms. Eberhardt also noted the amount of incomplete applications the commission sees and there needs to be a better communication with the Planning Board.

9. Next Meeting: May 10, 2015

*Mr. Campbell motioned to adjourn the meeting, second by Ms. Surname. **VOTE:** Unanimous*

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01pm

Respectfully Submitted

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Sarah McGraw