


# Town of East Kingston Conservation Commission

Minutes of Meeting October 9, 2023

Approved.  
11-13-23  


The CC meeting was Called to Order at 5:05pm.

Members Present: Vicki Brown, Julie Ostopchuk (by phone), Gordon Powers, Dennis Quintal

Members Absent: Adam Barss, Brooke Petrucelli

Minutes from September 11, 2023. Dennis made a motion to approve; Gordon seconded. Motion passed unanimously (4-0).

## Correspondence:

1. 8-16-23 email from RCCD's Tracy Degnan RCCD confirming low-volume foliar applications to remove invasives were completed on 8/1 and missed the rain. They plan to return in mid-late September to target and cut the vines, which were difficult to reach due to the height of the poison ivy.
2. 9-7-23 UNHCE's Emma Tutein & NHFG's Lynn Vaccaro will join us at the November 9 EKCC meeting to discuss the water supply potential factor for land conservation prioritization.
3. 9-28-23 copy of Letter to the Editor from Matt Freeman about the bark mulch facility at 9 Bowley Road / New England Outdoor Materials. Midnight Leasing LLC
4. 9-28-23 notice that early-bird rate (\$60) ends Oct. 27 for the NHACC Annual Conference on Nov. 4 in Pembroke. Registration: <https://www.nhacc.org/annualmeeting/registration>
5. 10-3-23 email from SELT's Jeremy Lougee re: Mueggler Agricultural Trust (Rider) property, stating that it's extremely urgent to meet with the Select Board long before Nov. 13 as "our chances of receiving the Drinking Water grant will be dashed if we can't confirm East Kingston's commitment ASAP."
6. 10-4-23 email from EKPb's secretary Cathy Belcher that the Planning Board has a work session scheduled for Oct. 12 and a meeting on Oct. 19
7. 10-5-23 Copies of letters of support from both Exeter and Kensington for proposed Mueggler Agricultural Trust (Rider) conservation easement
8. 10-5-23 Notice of Public Hearing for the acquisition of a bond for a proposed conservation easement at 48 Giles Road Rear (Mueggler Agricultural Trust/Rider) Monday, Oct. 30 at 6PM in the Selectmen's meeting room, 24 Depot Road, East Kingston.
9. 10-5-23 RCCD emailed that the invasive plant control at the Railroad Lot was completed on 10-4-23.
10. NHACC – Fall Lunch & Learn Programs. Tuesday, Oct. 24 at 12 noon "How to pass a Conservation Bond"
11. Conservation Budget Status as of 8-31-23 Balance of \$7,069.97
12. 9-20-23 NHACC September eNews
13. 10-3-23 RPC Newsletter October 2023

## ACTION ITEMS from 10-9-23:

1. All – attend a site visit of the Rider property on Tues 9/12 at 5:30pm, if available. *Dennis & Gordon attended.*
2. All – attend Rider Property public hearing, if possible. *Dennis & Vicki attended on 10-2-23.*
3. Dennis – contact Select Board to schedule a Public Hearing about Rider property. *Scheduled & held 10-2.*
4. Vicki – draft & submit article & photo about Dennis' James Hayden Award for EK Edition & CTN. *Done.*
5. Julie – secure photos of potential new embankment approach and share with Dennis & EKCC. *Done*
6. Dennis – rework existing Powwow Bank RFP to incorporate discussed embankment design changes and ready it for review/bidders (*Pending discussion of other embankment approaches*)
7. (from 5-8-23) Julie – contact EKES principal & CSX Railroad about mural project. *In process.*
8. (from 5-8-23) Julie – ask the Railroad for answers to questions posed by the EK Select Board about a proposed safety fence at the town Railroad parcel. *In process.*
9. Brooke – tackle the "Scenic/cultural/historical" factor in the Conservation Priorities list. *Ongoing.*
10. Vicki – work with Coastal Conservation team on data for water supply potential factor for land conservation prioritization. *In process.*



## OLD BUSINESS:

1. Mueggler Agricultural Trust / Rider conservation project (Tax Map 017, Lot 003 - 002, located at 48 Giles Road Rear). We discussed this property's high ranking in our prioritized list of properties (with or without development), and confirmed our support for, and the importance of, the property for people (water quality) and wildlife (a key wildlife corridor and the state's highest rated wildlife habitat). We unanimously agreed to provide a letter of support to the DWGTF grant application for the Mueggler Agricultural Trust (Rider) property; Dennis signed a letter of support for the property's conservation easement on behalf of EKCC. The Public Hearing to secure town support is Mon., Oct. 30 at 6pm.
2. Carter property at 68 South Road. No news.
3. 9 Bowley Road / New England Outdoor Materials. Midnight Leasing LLC – EKP meeting on Oct. 19.
4. Conservation Properties Prioritization.
  - Water Supply Potential factor. Stratified drift aquifer + groundwater protection + pollution attenuation. We discussed & agreed to use all these factors provided we can get the data overlayed with tax parcels.
  - Cultural/historical/scenic factor.
5. Safety fence at RR Parcel. Julie contacted Maurice O'Connell at CSX (the railroad) and is awaiting response.
6. Mural project at town's RR parcel. Julie contacted Maurice O'Connell at CSX and is waiting for a response.
7. Bank Restoration and Town Warrant Article. To agree on a new embankment design for both aesthetic and economic reasons, Julie found "some attractive" designs will email those photos to EKCC. Then Dennis will revise the RFP and send out to get new proposals. Goal is for this to be a warrant article in March 2024.
8. EKCC brick fundraising. No new purchases/donations.
9. Pollinator Pathways NH. 1) PPNH exhibit at SELT's TrailFest on Sat. Oct. 14. 2) The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Seed Swap is Sat., Nov. 11 from 9am-2pm at Kingston Rec, 24 Main Street, Kingston.
10. EK Edition topic(s). We discussed a Japanese knotweed article, which Vicki will draft based on guidance from county forester Greg Jordan.
11. NHACC annual conference Nov. 4. at Pembroke Academy. <https://www.nhacc.org/annualmeeting>
12. In Carriage Towne News 9-21-23: Dennis Quintal Wins James Hayden Award. Also posted to town website.

## NEW BUSINESS:

1. Litter pickup. We scheduled it for Thursday, Nov. 2. Meet at town hall at 8am.

**Next meeting of the Conservation Commission is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 13, 2023.**

## ACTION ITEMS:

Time Adjourned: 6:14pm

1. All – attend Planning Board meeting on Thur., Oct. 19 at 7pm for Rider property and mulch facility items
2. All – attend Rider property conservation easement Public Hearing on Monday Oct. 30 at 6pm.
3. All – join the Litter pickup on Thursday Nov. 2 at 8am.
4. Vicki – draft & submit article for EK Edition
5. Julie – send photos of potential new embankment approach and share with Dennis & EKCC
6. All – review embankment approaches for discussion at next meeting
7. Dennis – rework existing Powwow Bank RFP to incorporate embankment design changes and ready it for review/bidders (pending discussion on which embankment design to request)
8. (from 5-8-23) Julie – contact EKES principal & CSX Railroad about mural project
9. (from 5-8-23) Julie – ask the Railroad for answers to questions posed by the EK Select Board about a proposed safety fence at the town Railroad parcel.
10. Brooke – tackle the "Scenic/cultural/historical" factor in the Conservation Priorities list (ongoing)
11. Vicki - work with Coastal Conservation team on data for water supply potential factor for land conservation prioritization

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis G. Quintal

