

# Town of East Kingston Conservation Commission

## Minutes of Meeting February 12, 2024

Approved  
3-11-24  
[Signature]

The CC meeting was Called to Order at 5:06pm.

Members Present: Adam Barss, Vicki Brown, Julie Ostopchuk, Brooke Petrucelli, Gordon Powers, Dennis Quintal  
Minutes from January 8, 2024. Julie made a motion to approve; Adam seconded. Motion passed 5-0-1 (1 abstention).

### Correspondence:

1. 1-16-24 Barry Conservation Camp sponsorship. We have one student, Jack Gannon interested. He is 14 and interested in attending the Junior Conservation Officer Camp in August. Dennis sent the information to Andy Schafermeyer, Camp Administrator. Andy did respond that he did get the info to save the spot.
2. 1-17-24 invitation to apply to apply for a \$10,000 grant to participate in American Farmland Trust's Soil Health Stewards program from Beth Fraser.
3. 1-24-24 Note from Planning Board that Midnight Leasing withdrew their Site Plan Application without prejudice.
4. 2-7-24 NHPDIP statement for month ending 1-31-24 balance \$2,242.35 interest was \$10.23.
5. 2-9-24 communications from NH DES's Amy Smagula regarding milfoil in Powwow Pond's Blueberry Cove. She shared the 2024 herbicide bid map, which clearly shows needed treatment for the area, among others.
6. Dennis provided the Conservation Report on Funds End of Year 2023 to the BOS for the Town Report.

### ACTION ITEMS from 1-8-24:

1. Vicki – inform Amy Smagula of NH DES about milfoil in Blueberry Cove area of EK. *Complete. Amy confirmed it is on the map.*
2. Dennis – update Public Notice of 2024 EKCC meetings from Feb. 1 to Feb. 12, 2024. *Done*
3. Vicki – ask Select Board if they would consider providing information on town bonds and when they will be paid off at the Deliberative Session on Feb. 3. *No action.*
4. Julie – create design mock-ups of the Powwow bank restoration for the March 12 EKCC display table. *Done.*
5. Dennis – for Powwow project, consider discussed revisions to RFP for next meeting's discussion and eventual resubmission to DES. *In process.*
6. (from 5-8-23) Julie – contact EKES principal & CSX Railroad about mural project. *Postponed until bank restoration plans are revised.*
7. (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. *Postponed until bank restoration plans are revised.*
8. Brooke – tackle the "Scenic/cultural/historical" factor in the Conservation Priorities list. *Ongoing.*
9. Brooke – ask library if they have access to the EMMIT database for archeological/historical info for the Land Conservation Priorities. *No action.*

### OLD BUSINESS:

1. Bank Restoration RFP & Town Warrant Article. We discussed proposed amendments to the RFP; Dennis will revise and reapply to NH DES. Julie plans to apply for a \$30K grant from the Conservation Moose Plate Grant Program.
2. Carter property. No update.
3. Mueggler Agricultural Trust. No update.
4. 2 Deer Run Road. Real estate firm may be interested in a conservation easement.
5. 9 Bowley Road / Midnight Leasing LLC. The Planning Board announced that Midnight Leasing LLC has withdrawn its application to operate a mulch business, without prejudice.
6. Conservation Properties Priorities.
  - a. Cultural/historical/scenic factor. Brooke is hoping to work on this over the next month or so.
  - b. Next Steps. We discussed and all agreed to share the priorities list with partners SELT and The Forest Society, once we've finished the last factor.

7. Tilton Lane conservation subdivision. No news following application to EK Planning Board on 12-21-23.
8. Safety fence at RR Parcel. On hold pending revised plan for Powwow bank restoration.
9. Mural project at town's RR parcel. On hold pending revised plan for Powwow bank restoration.
10. EKCC brick fundraising. We'll start promoting the Powwow bank restoration project again once we finalize changes and secure DES approval on new plans.
11. Display at Deliberative Session Feb. 3, 2024. The EKCC displayed a poster showing plans to stabilize the bank and add stairs to prevent erosion and make the town beach more accessible.
12. Pollinator Pathways NH. Dr. Vicki Moltz presented "Abenaki Medicinal Use of Local Pollinator Plants" on Sat., February 10 to 85 attendees. The next program is Plan Your Pollinator Garden on Sat., March 16 at 10am at the Kingston Community Library, where native plant seeds are available to all.
13. EK Edition topic(s). None proposed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Display at Town Meeting on March 12, 2024. For the March 12 display, Julie recommended showing new design mock-ups of the Powwow bank restoration.
2. FYI – At the next EK Planning Board (2-15-24) there will be a nonbinding discussion for a possible subdivision at 131 North Road – MBL# 16-02-02.
3. 2024 Programs. We agreed to repeat previous years' programs on conservation easements, birding, and Paddling the Powwow. Vicki, Brooke and Gordon will follow up and present possible dates for each activity.
4. EKCC terms. Three members' terms expire next year, in March 2025; the remaining three expire in 2026.

**Next meeting of the Conservation Commission is scheduled for Monday, March 11, 2024.**

**ACTION ITEMS:**

Time Adjourned: 6:23pm

1. Vicki – check in on possible conservation easement of 2 Deer Run Rd.
2. Julie – update Powwow bank restoration mock-up poster for EKCC table on March 12 (Voting day).
3. Brooke – collaborate with Kirk Elwell and select dates (including a rain date) for one or more birding programs in East Kingston in 2024
4. Gordon – propose 1 or more dates (with rain dates) for Paddling the Powwow program in summer/fall 2024
5. Vicki – organize a 2024 conservation easement program for East Kingston and propose dates and speakers.
6. Dennis – for Powwow project, revise RFP for review and resubmission to DES.
7. (from 5-8-23) Julie – contact EKES principal & CSX Railroad about mural project.
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.
9. Brooke – tackle the "Scenic/cultural/historical" factor in the Conservation Priorities list.
10. (from 12-11-23) Brooke – ask library if they have access to the EMMIT database for archeological/historical info for the Land Conservation Priorities.

Respectfully submitted;

Dennis G. Quintal

