

Rochester Conservation Commission

Minutes of April 26, 2017

Approved May 24, 2017

Members Present:

Mike Dionne	Merry Lineweber	Barbara Soley	Jack Hackett
Mark Jennings	Michael Kirwan	Keith Johnson	

Members Absent: Kevin Sullivan

Staff: Seth Creighton, Chief Planner

Mr. Dionne convened the meeting at 6:33pm and appointed alternate member Ms. Soley to vote in place of Mr. Sullivan.

1. **Review of minutes:** Mr. Jennings suggested several changes be made to the March 22, 2017 public minutes. Mr. Hackett motioned to accept the public minutes with the suggested changes, Mr. Kirwan seconded, and the motioned passed. Mr. Hackett motioned to accept the nonpublic minutes without changes, Mr. Kirwan seconded, and the motioned passed.
2. **Discussion:** The Commission discussed member Deb Shigo's passing and ways they could memorialize her commitment to the City and the environment.

2. **Dredge and Fill Application/Wetland Permit Application:**

a) Railroad Ave, Map-Lot: 139-54 and 139-54-1: Temporary wetland impact for culvert related to City of Rochester sewer project.

Public Works Director John Storer stated that this wetland permit is needed in order to place a channelized wetland into a culvert where a temporary driveway needs to be located. The culvert would be removed in approximately 6 months when the driveway is removed. Mr. Kirwan voted to sign off on this proposal as presented, Ms. Soley seconded, all voted in favor.

3. **Conservation Overlay District:**

a) Continued Discussion of project review and site walk regarding: LaPerle Family Rev. Trust, Haven Hill Road Map + Lot #225 – 24-1 (by Norway Plains Assoc.) proposed 10-Lot subdivision involving wetland/wetland buffer impacts.

The Commission walked this property with property owner and design engineer on April 23rd. At this site walk the Commission was pleased with the amended design and site conditions, and voted to send their signoff and support of the Conditional Use Permit back to the Planning Board. No further discussion was had this evening.

4. **Correspondence:** Several members noted that they had received a letter from NH DES; the letter stated that DES has received a grant that will provide funding to allow them offer free water quality and urine tests to randomly selected residents that have private water throughout the State. Mr. Creighton suggested that the letters to the Commissioners from NH DES were sent as an advance notice that some Rochester residents may be asked to participate.

5. **Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber / Intent to Excavate:**

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- a) Notice of Intent to Excavate - Tax Map # 207-1, Little Falls Bridge Rd
- b) Notice of Intent to Excavate - Tax Map # 208-12, Route 11
- c) Notice of Intent to Excavate - Tax Maps # 268-6 and 268-7, Rochester Neck Rd

The Commission members had no concerns with these renewals for existing sandpits.

6. Reports: Mr. Jennings, the Commission's liaison to the Technical Review Group, gave an update on the applications that were submitted to the Planning Board and had been reviewed by TRG. He noted that several of these projects will impact wetlands and wetland buffers and thus require review by the Conservation Commission.

7. Old Business: a) Mr. Creighton provided an update regarding progress being made in preparation for closing on the Gauthier Farm. He stated that he has been working with South East Land Trust on easement language and letters of understanding.

8. Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II(d): Discussion of acquisition of real property and/or recent site walks and LACE sheets.

At 7:42 pm Mr. Hackett motioned to move into a nonpublic session, Ms. Lineweber seconded, the motion passed.

At 8:07 pm the public session resumed.

9. New Business: a) Mr. Creighton stated that the Commission had several years of sealed nonpublic minutes, and suggested that some of these be unsealed. After some discussion, Mr. Jennings made a motion to unseal nonpublic minutes dated 2012 or earlier, Mr. Hackett seconded the motion, all voted in favor.

b) Mr. Creighton informed the members about an inquiry submitted by UNH Cooperative Extension. UNH CoOp had requested to talk to someone that knew about the forest management history of all forested City-owned parcels with 10 or more acres. Mr. Creighton explained where these lots were; the Commission said that they had no knowledge of forest management on these parcels. Mr. Creighton stated he would contact DPW as it is that department that oversees the City's buildings and grounds.

10. Other Business: The members discussed the need to contact Hope Farm to remind them that best management farming practices must be utilized.

Adjournment: Mr. Kirwan motioned to adjourn at 8:31pm; Mr. Hackett seconded. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Creighton, Chief Planner