

Rochester Conservation Commission

Minutes of February 27, 2019

Approved 4-24-19

Members Present:

Mike Dionne	Kevin Sullivan	Sheila Lulek
Mark Jennings	Meredeth Lineweber	

Members Absent:

Barbara Soley	Michael Kirwan
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Staff: Seth Creighton, Chief Planner

Mr. Dionne convened the meeting at 6:30 pm

1. Minutes: The meeting Minutes of January 23, 2019 were reviewed with edits suggested by Ms. Lineweber and Ms. Lulek; Ms Lulek motioned to approve the minutes, with changes; Ms. Lineweber seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

2. Conservation Overlay District: None.

3. Discussion: Open.

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

- a) Notice of Intent to Cut - Tax Map 219-3, 147 Meaderboro Rd, Olson
- b) Notice of Intent to Excavate - Tax Map 268-5, 253 Rochester Neck Rd, Brox
- c) Notice of Intent to Cut - Tax Map 114-5, North Main St, Bushong

The Commission discussed but had no concerns with the proposed timber harvests and earth excavations.

5. New Business:

a) Discuss partnering with UNH Cooperative Extension to put on, or participate in, an educational program on Emerald Ash Borer on April 24:

Mr. Creighton explained the County Forester would like to partner with the Rochester Conservation Commission to present an informational session regarding the invasive beetle known as the Emerald Ash Borer. The date would be April 24th, at 6:00/6:30 pm. The Commission reviewed a draft notice of the meeting and said they are looking forward to hosting. They suggested that the advertisements be posted online and in the newspaper.

b) Student Conservation Association (SCA) and AmeriCorps Potential Partnership

Mr. Creighton presented a letter from SCA in which SCA states they are now accepting applications for summertime projects. This non-profit organization typically provides a team of student staff at low/no cost to conduct trail work and related services. Mr. Dionne suggested forwarding this to DPW, the Riverwalk Committee, etc...

c) Farmers Market

Mr. Jennings said he may rent a table at the Farmer's Market to sell handmade goods. He said that if he does he will simultaneously promote the efforts of the Conservation Commission.

d) Community Gardens

Ms. Lineweber said folks have approached her with interest in the community gardens on Franklin St. The Commission suggested that all community garden questions should be directed to Mr. Kirwan.

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e) Snow dump, Franklin St

Members and Staff stated that a City Council member had inquired about the approval status of the City's new snow dump on Franklin St. Mr. Creighton informed all that required State and Local permits have been issued.

f) Water Quality Testing by Spaulding High School Student

A Spaulding High School student from Mr. Scopel's class told the Commission she would like to test the chlorine levels in a water body and asked if Willow Brook would be a good waterbody. The Commission agreed and suggested two locations to test at, and the Commission volunteered to help too. The student and Mr. Scopel thanked the Commission for their input.

g) NH DES Wetlands/Shoreland application: City of Rochester Proposed Waterline Extension – Shaw Drive and Airport Drive

Mr. Creighton presented this NH DES Wetlands Application of a proposed waterline extension down Shaw Drive and Innovation Drive. The waterline would be placed in the road rights-of-way, some of which are unimproved. Mr. Creighton explained that there are several thousand square feet of temporary wetland impacts, but less than 100 square feet of permanent wetland impact. The Commission supported the proposal as presented because the wetland impacts appear to have been minimized as much as possible, and nearly all the impacts are temporary. They did suggest that Mr. Creighton contact NH DES and suggest that the work be done during the dry season.

6. Reports:

- a) Technical Review Group (TRG).
- b) Planning Board (PB).

Mr. Jennings and Mr. Creighton reported here were no Conservation Commission related applications before the TRG or PB.

7. 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 7:39pm the Commission moved into Non-Public session. At 7:48pm the Regular meeting convened.

8. Adjournment: Mr. Dionne motioned to adjourn at 7:50pm; Mr. Sullivan seconded. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Creighton, Chief Planner