

# Rochester Conservation Commission

Minutes of May 22, 2019

## Members Present:

Barbara Soley                      Kevin Sullivan                      Michael Kirwan  
Mark Jennings                      Meredith Lineweber

## Members Absent:

Mike Dionne                      Sheila Lulek

Staff: Seth Creighton, Chief Planner

Mr. Sullivan convened the meeting at 6:36 pm

**1. Minutes:** The Meeting Minutes of April 24, 2019 were reviewed with edits suggested by Mr. Kirwan and Mr. Jennings. Mr. Jennings motioned to accept the minutes with the discussed edits, Ms. Lineweber seconded. The motion passed.

**2. Discussion:** a) Water quality monitoring – Staff asked the Commission if they would like to participate in NH DES’s seasonal Cocheco river monitoring. The Commission said they would and would work to draft simple ‘how-to’ instructions, and schedule recurring days to sample.  
b) Easement Monitoring- Staff suggested that the Commission use their monthly meeting to monitor conservation easements, as agenda load/time/ and weather permit. The Commission suggested that the conservation easement deeds be dispersed evenly amongst members so that initial desk reviews can begin.

**3. Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber / Intent to Excavate:** None were scheduled, however Mr. Creighton shared an Intent-to-Cut application that was received after the agenda was set; this intent was for Pickering Road, Map-Lot 264-43. The Commission chose to discuss this application because the timbering could be finished if they postponed reviewing it until the next meeting. Mr. Creighton explained where the property was, the Commission said they were familiar with the property and asked if there was development proposed on the lot, Mr. Creighton said that he knows of no development proposals for this lot. The Commission had no concerns.

**4. New Business:** a) Ms. Lineweber suggested that memorials be established and/or gifts be given for/to past Conservation Commission chair persons. Mr. Creighton suggested that Ms. Lineweber, and/or other members present a list of ideas and locations that can be determined for consideration.  
b) Ms. Lineweber suggested that there may be a wetland violation on Route 202, and there was mention of numerous car dealerships that have expanded their display areas into wetland buffers and/or vegetated areas. Staff encouraged the Commission to contact the Code Enforcement Officer and follow up with City Councilors to support code enforcement.

**5. Reports:** a) Technical Review Group: Mr. Jennings explained two projects currently being discussed by the TRG group. One is a subdivision on Betts Rd, and the other is an expansion of storage units at 201 Highland St., neither of which propose wetland/wetland buffer impacts.  
b) Planning Board: Mr. Creighton reported there were no Conservation Commission related applications before the PB.

**6. Old Business:** a) Ms. Lineweber suggested that the Commission be present at the Farmer’s Market. Mr. Jennings suggested that a list of dates to attend, no more than four, be determined so

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that those be target attendance dates. The limit of four dates is because the Farmers Market rules state that non-profits (not related to farming) are limited to four days per season, at a cost of \$20 each day, if space is available. Staff suggested that the members think about what they would do/present at the meeting.

b) Mr. Kirwan has been working with and has enrolled Hope Farm (36 Peaslee Rd) to rototill the community gardens on Franklin St; Hope Farm is donating their time and machinery for this project. Additionally, the Commission is looking forward to have Department of Public Works (DPW) create a drainage swale so that the gardens aren't inundated with water; they are also hoping DPW will install a water spigot at the site soon, and asked staff to see where this stands.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Creighton, Chief Planner