

Rochester Conservation Commission
Minutes of the March 27, 2013 Meeting
(Approved May 22, 2013)

Members Present:

Deborah Shigo, Chair
Michael Dionne, Vice Chair
Meredeth Lineweber
Mark Jennings
Jeff Winders (arrived 7:10 p.m.)

Member Excused:

Jack Hackett

Staff: Caroline Lewis, Recording Secretary

The Chair convened the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

Minutes: The regular minutes of the February 27, 2013 meeting were reviewed. It was noted that the spelling of Jack's last name on page 4 was incorrect. The second "t" was left off. Mark Jennings made a motion to accept the minutes with this correction, seconded by Michael Dionne. The motion passed unanimously.

Conservation Overlay District - Conditional Use Review:

None to discuss.

Dredge and Fill Applications:

None to discuss.

Discussion:

Natural Resources Master Plan

Each member of the Commission had received a copy of Appendix A from the Natural Resources Chapter of the Master Plan. After review and discussion the Commission members made the following comments:

- GR 1 The Commission has designed a brochure and is working on public relations.
- GR 2 The Commission has something in the works with Great Bay Community College that hopefully will start in the fall of 2013.
- TP 1 The Commission has been working very hard on this, but feel they get "push back" from the Planning and Zoning Boards.
- FR 10 The Commission hopes to engage someone to do an inventory of all conservation lands. (A management plan for some City forests has already been done).
- EC 1 through EC 5 The Commission is either doing this, or this will be part of FR 10.
- WI 1 The Commission noted that the recent SUR mitigation project involved removal of invasive species.
- WI 3 through WI 5 The Commission recognizes it needs to do more teaching, and will work on that in the future.
- WI 13 This ties into GR 2.
- WT 3 This is ongoing.
- WT 5 The Commission requests complete storm water management reports on all major projects.
- RC 1 through RC 3 The Commission intends to do more of this
- RC 4 This ties into FR 10
- PR 4 This ties into FR 10

Mark Jennings stated he has spoken with Professor Wilson at Great Bay Community College about having students attend Rochester Conservation Commission meetings as part of their course studies. The hope is for this to start with the fall semester.

Rte 11 Park

The Conservation members discussed this park, the New Hampshire owned land, fencing in part of the site, the wetness of the site, and other issues. The consensus was to do a site walk of the property sometime in May.

Violations:

83 Highland Street (Rte 202) East Rochester Map 107 Lot 1

Several Commission members have noticed that the area behind the car detailing shop is being filled in; this appears to be a wetland area. The Chair will check this out.

Correspondence:

- a) FYI – Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber/Map 216 Lot 8
- b) FYI – Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber/Map 206 Lot 40
- c) FYI – Notice of Intent to Excavate/Brock Street
- d) NHDES Letter/PSNH Y-170 Line
- e) OEP Annual Spring Conference/Saturday, May 11, 2013

The members discussed the correspondence, noting the different locations of the intent to cut notices, the PSNH mitigation amount, and the upcoming OEP Conference. (Deborah Shigo and Mark Jennings plan to attend)

Reports:

Stormwater Assessment and Opportunities for the Willow Brook Watershed

The members each received this report, considered to be interesting reading.

TRG Meetings:

Mark Jennings attended a recent TRG meeting and shared information on some of the projects that were reviewed.

Rte 125 Compressed Natural Gas filling station

Discussed tanks, State and Federal permits, water, traffic, the turnpike ramps, and other issues.

Highfield Commons

Next phase is development of 16 condo units on Monroe Street. Discussed drainage, erosion control and other issues.

Rte 202 Self Storage Units

It was suggested they use pervious pavement, however Gretchen Young, Public Works Department, noted it would not be a good fit for that location.

McGroen Project

The NH Fish & Game Department has been contacted by State Representative Rose Marie Rogers, who has voiced her opposition to this project, and asking what Fish & Game could do. Michael Dionne stated the Conservation Commission has already suggested shade trees be left and/or planted, and the drainage issues will be addressed on site. He isn't sure what if anything the Fish & Game Department will do. The Chair noted this is a project that the Conservation Commission wants to follow closely, and will be coming before the Commission again once they apply for DES permits.

Old Business:

RFQ form

The recording secretary has redone the RFQ form used by the City of Dover, she just has to put the Rochester front sheet information with it and will email and/or send it out to all Conservation Commission members for review. The Chair would like to get this going as soon as possible.

New Business:

UNH Barry Conservation 4-H Camp 2013

The members reviewed the information on this camp, and wish them well in their endeavors to obtain donations. The Conservation Commission does not wish to become a sponsor at this time.

Sheepboro Road monitoring

The Chair received an email from Art LeClair about a monitoring report that needs to be done in this area. She will request the form and will ask for help in getting this done, probably in May, so it will be easier to walk the property.

Other Business:

Public Relations

The Chair is still looking for different ideas on how to get information out to the public and have the community be aware of the role of the Conservation Commission.

Community Gardens

The Chair has had a request for information about any and all community gardens. The one known to members is the Franklin Street location. There was talk of something being done on Hanson Street, but that has not materialized. Meredeth Lineweber will contact this person and give them the available information.

New Conservation Commission members

Meredeth Lineweber informed the members Mr. Chris McGillicuddy (Rte 202A) is interested in being a member. She will invite him to attend the next meeting.

Meredeth Lineweber stated Bambi Miller is now a Fire Fighter for the town of Lee, and she may be going to the Sanford Airport.

The Chair will not be able to attend the next scheduled meeting on April 24th. Mark Jennings stated he has a conference that evening. Meredeth Lineweber noted that is her vacation week. Leaving only 3 other members to attend would not be a quorum. **The April meeting will be cancelled and the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 22, 2013.**

If any projects come in that require review by the Commission before the May meeting, the recording secretary will notify the members and look for an alternate April date for a meeting just to discuss those issues.

Non-Public Discussion Pursuant to RSA 91-a:3 II (d): Discussion of acquisition of real property.

At 8:20 p.m. Jeff Winders made a motion to go into non-public session. Michael Dionne seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

At 8:44 p.m. Meredeth Lineweber made a motion to come out of non-public session and seal the minutes. Deborah Shigo seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment:

At 8:45 p.m. Michael Dionne made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mark Jennings. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Caroline Lewis
Recording Secretary