

# Rochester Conservation Commission

Minutes of October 25, 2017

*Approved 11-15-2017*

## Members Present:

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

## Members Absent:

Sheila Lulek	Jack Hackett	Kevin Sullivan
--------------	--------------	----------------

Staff: None.

**Call to Order: Roll Call** Mr. Dionne convened the meeting at 6:30pm

### **1. Correspondence: (emailed/sent prior to meeting):**

**a) Review draft conservation easement language for Gauthier Farm** – Mr. Creighton referred the Commission to the Agricultural Land Easement (ALE) draft deed language that was included in the packets and then introduced the Gauthier family members and Jeremy Lougee from South East Land Trust (SELT). Mr. Creighton reminded the Commission that much of the draft easement language was required language from the ALE program. Mr. Lougee gave an overview of what the document contained. Mr. Dionne asked how the existing disc golf course was being addressed; Mr. Lougee said that the course will remain and that there is a recorded license agreement that will be reviewed every two years and best management practice improvements for the course were created. Mr. Dionne asked about concerts being held onsite. Mr. Lougee said that these sorts of events are allowed if they adhere to ALE rules and are reviewed by SELT. Mr. Dionne asked about the restoration of the gravel pit. Mr. Lougee said that baseline documentation report specifies the existing conditions and location of the pit, and the easement language states that restoration (into a farming use/natural state) is allowed. Mr. Dionne motioned to accept the easement language, Mr. Kirwan seconded, all voted in favor. Mr. Lougee said they are targeting a November closing.

**2. Minutes:** The minutes of August 23, 2017 were reviewed. Mr. Kirwan made a motion to accept minutes with no changes, a second was made by Mr. Johnson, all voted in favor.

**3. Conservation Overlay District:** None.

**4. Dredge and Fill Application/Wetland Permit Application:** None.

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

**a) Notice of Intent to Excavate - Tax Map # 237-3, Fillmore Blvd**

**b) Notice of Intent to Cut - Tax Map # 232-16-3, 144 Meaderboro Rd**

The Commission had no concern with these applications.

**6. Reports: a) Technical Review Group report.** – Mr. Jennings explained that Waste Management had submitted engineered plans for the proposed landfill expansion, relocation of Rochester Neck Rd, relocation of 'resident drop off', expansion of the container storage yard, and improvements to Isinglass River Park. Mr. Jennings stated that the plans were very similar to the conceptual plans that Waste Management submitted and the Commission reviewed over the last several months. Mr. Creighton said

# Rochester Conservation Commission

Minutes of October 25, 2017

*Approved 11-15-2017*

that Waste Management would be back before the Conservation Commission next month with a formal request to review the wetlands conditional use permit.

**b) Planning Board report-** Mr. Creighton stated that the 51 lot subdivision on Chesley Hill Rd that the Commission had reviewed a couple of times within the last year was recently approved by the Planning Board.

**7. Discussion: Discuss the potential of holding an open house at Ten Rod Farm –** Mr. Creighton reminded the Commission that this is the most recently protected property that the Commission helped to conserve, and that the members had shown an interest in holding an open house at the farm to highlight the farm and the Conservation Commission. Mr. Creighton informed the Commission that farm owner Matt Scruton was unable to attend tonight's meeting because of previous commitments related to his run for City Mayor. Mr. Creighton said the Mr. Scruton asked that the open house be scheduled during the maple sugar season. Mr. Dionne asked that this discussion be rescheduled for a date when Mr. Scruton was able to be present.

**8. New/Other Business: a)** Mr. Creighton distributed draft 2018 meeting schedules and asked the Commission to review them by next meeting, which will be November 15<sup>th</sup>.

**b)** Mr. Dionne said that he (as employee of NH Fish & Game) will be demonstrating "electro shocking" to Spaulding High School's

**9. Old Business: a)** Mr. Dionne said that Ms. Lulek has attended Riverwalk Committee meetings and encouraged that group to present to the Conservation Commission.

**b)** Mr. Creighton provided answers to questions that the Commission asked at their August meeting, regarding City owned rain gardens. He said that the City is not fully maintaining rain gardens, nor do they have an Operation & Maintenance plan for them. However, he explained that the City was awarded a grant to create a Stormwater Master Plan and that they are actively working with consultants to draft that plan. Mr. Creighton said that this plan will include guidance on maintaining all city storm water practices, including rain gardens.

**c)** Ms. Lineweber said that she attended a meeting regarding Main St revitalization efforts; she suggested that there are many groups working on bettering the City but that most are working in silos and they would be better off collaborating.

**10. Adjournment:** Mr. Johnson motioned to adjourn; Mr. Kirwan seconded. The motion passed at 7:42pm

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Creighton, Chief Planner