

City of Rochester Conservation Commission

June 27, 2018

City Council Chambers

31 Wakefield Street, Rochester, NH 03867

Approved 7-25-18

Members Present:

Meredeth Lineweber Mark Jennings Sheila Lulek Barbara Soley

Members Absent: Mike Dionne Michael Kirwan Kevin Sullivan

Staff: Seth Creighton, Chief Planner

Mr. Dionne convened the meeting at 6:38 pm

1. Minutes: Review Meeting Minutes for April 25, 2018.

The minutes for May 23, 2018 were reviewed; Mr. Jennings and Ms. Lineweber suggested edits. A motion to approve the minutes with changes made by Ms. Jennings, seconded by Ms. Lineweber, all voted in favor.

2. Discussion: Ms. Lineweber had an idea to create a map and quick reference guide for the City's conservation easements. Mr. Creighton said that this could be a good project and that the compilation of information Kane Conservation assembled in 2014 could be referred to to create this map and document. The Commission agreed there is value in such materials, and that groups such as Boy Scouts could use the documents and land to practice compass work and/or conduct field monitoring.

3. Conservation Overlay District:

There were no items scheduled.

4. NH DES Wetland Impact Application:

There were no items to discuss.

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

a) Notice of Intent to Excavate: Tax Map – Lot 268 – 6 and 268 - 7, Rochester Neck Road (Pike Industries)

b) Notice of Intent to Cut: Tax Map – Lot 262 - 22, Rochester Neck Road (Waste Management)

There were no concerns from any of the Commission members on these items.

6. New Business:

a) Cocheco River Local Advisory Committee – Mr. Creighton said the State of NH sent a letter to the Conservation Commission asking for up to three volunteers to serve on the Cocheco River Advisory Commission. Ms. Lulek, Ms. Lineweber, Ms. Soley stated they are interested but asked Staff to find out more information about expectations, meeting location, meeting frequency, etc..

b) Dry Hill Rd culvert replacement- Ms. Lineweber is concerned that turtles/turtle habitat could be disturbed during a scheduled culvert replacement. Mr. Creighton said that NH DES had reviewed and approved the proposal a year ago and would have included condition specific to threatened/endangered turtles/habitat, but that the concern would be forwarded to DPW as they are responsible for the work.

c) Citizen recognition- Ms. Lulek stated that resident Kris Connor should be recognized for her daily commitment in picking up litter throughout the downtown.

d) Greening America's Communities- Mr. Creighton explained that the City and EPA are working together on this grant program. The Commission is invited to participate in the public input sessions July 10 – July 12.

7. Old Business: a) Community Gardens discussion- Staff said that he had discovered there has never been a formal community garden program, but was told that a woman named Michelle Smith had managed the informal gardens on Franklin St. Mr. Jennings suggested reaching out to Ms. Smith to find out more information; Ms. Lineweber said she might have Ms. Smith's number. Mr. Creighton said that he too could try to find her contact information.

8. Reports:

a) Technical Review Group – Mr. Jennings gave a summary of recent, not yet approved, Planning Board applications and stated none of them proposed wetland/buffer impacts.

b) Planning Board – Mr. Creighton listed the recently approved Planning Board applications; He also gave an update on his involvement with DPW and EPA in creating a long-term Stormwater Master Plan.

9. 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. Jennings motioned to move into a nonpublic session, Ms. Soley seconded, the motion passed.

At 8:05 pm the public session resumed.

10. Adjournment: Mr. Jennings motioned to adjourn at 8:05 pm; Ms. Soley seconded. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Creighton, Chief Planner