

Rochester Conservation Commission

Minutes of April 24, 2019

Approved 5-22-19

Members Present:

Mike Dionne	Kevin Sullivan	Michael Kirwan	Meredeth Lineweber
Mark Jennings	Barbara Soley	Sheila Lulek	

Staff: Seth Creighton, Chief Planner

Mr. Dionne convened the meeting at 6:06 pm

1. New Business:

a) “Emerald Ash Borer & What it Means for You” presentation was presented by Morgan Dube c/o the NH Dept of Agriculture, the Division of Forests and Lands, and Andy Fast and Dode Gladders c/o the UNH Cooperative Extension. The presentation detailed the history of and present issues with the invasive beetle known as the Emerald Ash Borer and its effect on ash trees throughout New Hampshire and the country.

2. Minutes: The meeting Minutes of February 27, 2019 were reviewed and approved with no changes. Mr. Sullivan made the motion to approve, Mr. Kirwan seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

3. Conservation Overlay District: None.

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

- a) Notice of Intent to Cut - Tax Map 204-34, Betts Rd
- b) Notice of Intent to Cut - Tax Map 267-2, Rochester Neck Rd
- c) Notice of Intent to Cut - Tax Map 267-3, Rochester Neck Rd
- d) Notice of Intent to Cut - Tax Map 224-310, Salmon Falls Rd3
- e) Notice of Intent to Cut - Tax Map 243-39a, Tebbetts Rd

There were no concerns with the Intent to Cut application.

- f) Notice of Intent to Excavate- Tax Map 207-1, Little Falls Bridge Rd

There were questions and concerns about the Intent to Excavate application regarding how the parcel is accessed and what extent of excavation was occurring. There were also questions about the excavation occurring on lots abutting this one that transcend the municipal line and go into Farmington; specifically there was concern that unpermitted wetland alterations may have occurred.

5. Reports:

a) Technical Review Group (TRG)- Mr. Jennings, the Conservation Commission’s TRG representative, explained that there is a 145’ tall cell phone tower proposed at 144 Meaderboro Rd and that the site likely has wetlands, but the applicant hadn’t delineated the property for wetlands yet; but that a delineation is required and the proposed wetland impacts will need to be reviewed by the Commission. Ms. Soley said she is familiar with this area and suspects there are several wetlands onsite.

b) Planning Board- Mr. Creighton provided status update on which applications the Planning Board were reviewing and/or recently approved.

6. Old Business:

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a) Farmers Market- The Commission continues to consider doing public outreach at the Farmer's Market.

7. Discussion: a) Ms. Lulek suggested that a clean-up of Congress St's ravine and drainage ways should be a project and could be tied into the Rivewalk Group's efforts. Mr. Dionne asked what type of cleanup; Ms. Lulek said that there was trash and metal pieces; Mr. Dionne suggested that may be best suited for Department of Public Works to handle. Mr. Creighton said that if the Commission would like to clean-up an area, it would be best to organize a clean-up event. Ms. Lulek suggested that the Rivewalk Committee work with the Conservation Commission and/or keep them abreast of the Riverwalk plans.

b) Ms. Lulek suggested that the Student Conservation Association (SCA) be utilized to help with trail creation and/or cleanup. Mr. Creighton reminded the Commission they previously discussed this and at the Commission's direction Mr. Creighton suggested to the Riverwalk Committee, Department of Public Works, and Recreation Department that SCA could help with trail work.

c) The Commission questioned the work that the National Guard was doing at their Brock St site; Mr. Creighton said that he had inquired about this work but had not yet heard back from the State of NH office that administers Federal jobs.

d) Ms. Lineweber and Mr. Kirwan discussed the need for DPW to address drainage at the Franklin St community garden plot, and the need for water service there. Mr. Kirwan and Mr. Creighton agreed that they would contact Department of Public Works

8. 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 8:47 Mr. Dionne motioned to move into nonpublic, Mr. Sullivan seconded, the motion passed.

At 9:04 the Regular meeting convened.

9. Adjournment: Mr. Dionne motioned to adjourn at 9:04pm; Mr. Kirwan seconded. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Creighton, Chief Planner