



City of Rochester Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes Wednesday August 23, 2023

Rochester Police Department (2nd Floor)
23 Wakefield Street, Rochester, NH

(These minutes were approved on September 27, 2023)

Attendance

Presence	Commission Member
Present	Mike Dionne, <i>Chair</i>
Present	Kevin Sullivan, <i>Vice Chair</i>
Present	Mark Jennings
Present	Merry Lineweber
Present	Dan Nickerson
Present	Dylan Dowe
Present	Renée McIsaac, <i>Planner I</i>

Notes

Members of the Public

Lynn Vaccaro	Great Bay NERR
Abby Lyons	PREP

1) Call to Order:

Mike Dionne called the meeting to order at 6:34pm and asked if there were any objections to moving the LACE (Land Acquisition Criteria Evaluation) form discussion to the next item of business. There were no objections.

2) LACE Revision:

Renée McIsaac introduced the new format of the LACE to the Commission members. Kevin Sullivan commented that one of the intentions with the update was to provide greater weight to those characteristics that were deemed more important by the Commission.

Renée asked for examples of properties previously assessed to evaluate using the new form. She stated this would help to assess the function of the current LACE design and asked for an example of a high and low result.

Members agreed that at the next meeting they would use the revised LACE to score the Gauthier Farm (Bernard Road) and Crowell property (Dry Hill Road).

Lynn discussed about the Changemaker Bootcamp – focus is the Cocheco River.

3) Changemaker Bootcamp

Lynn Vaccaro of the Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve gave a brief overview of the Changemaker Bootcamp and encouraged anyone interested to register for the program.

4) Approval of Minutes:

Review Meeting Minutes of July 26, 2023.

Kevin Sullivan made a motion to accept the meeting minutes. Dan Nickerson seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

5) Conservation Overlay District:

350 Chestnut Hill Road; Tax Map 203 Lots 7 and 8

Wetland buffer impacts associated with driveway construction.

A representative for the applicant was not present for the meeting. The Commission reviewed the submitted application. Members did not have concerns with the proposed wetland buffer impacts. Kevin Sullivan made a motion to recommend approval of the Conditional Use Permit application. Dylan Dowe seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

6) NH DES Applications:

- a. Alteration of Terrain - Y170 Transmission Line Structure Replacement Project (multiple Tax Maps)
- b. Notice of Violation – Jaeger USA Map 141 Lot 29

The Commission did not have concerns with the above notices.

7) New Business:

Gonic Dam Removal – Request for a Letter of Support

The draft letter was reviewed by the Commission.

Dan Nickerson made a motion to use the draft language and submit a letter of support for the application. Merry Linewebber seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

8) Reports:

- a. Technical Review
Mark Jennings provided an overview of recent projects that have been presented to the Technical Review Group.
- b. Planning Board Review
Renée McIsaac provided an overview of the Planning Board's review of project proposals for 60 Shaw Drive and 17 Sterling Drive.

9) Old Business:

- a. Draft letter requesting additional records for excavation site off Farmington Road (Map 207 Lot 1).
Mark Jennings made a motion to finalize the draft letter. Dan Nickerson seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.
- b. Salmon Falls Watershed Collaborative Success Safari agenda finalized.
Currently Dan Nickerson, Mark Jennings and Renée McIsaac are registered to attend. Renée confirmed that the registration is still open and she will register prospective new Conservation Commission member to attend. Members agreed to meet at DPW for carpooling to the Crowhill Road site.
- c. Moose Plate Grant Funds
Currently no projects were identified for this funding opportunity.
- d. Cocheco River Clean-up planning
Concerns with accessing the area of clean-up were discussed. Renée McIsaac agreed to reach out to the property owner on Wilson Street so a couple of members could assess access to the site.
- e. Hope Farm Site walk

Commission members identified September 23rd and 24th (preferred day) as possible dates for a site walk. Renée McIsaac will reach out to the property owner to confirm if these are acceptable.

10) Adjournment.

A motion was made by Dan Nickerson and seconded by Mike Dionne to adjourn at 8:41pm; the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Renee McIsaac
Planner I