**Rochester Conservation Commission**

Minutes of the July 22, 2015

Public Hearing and Regular Meeting

 *Approved 8-26-15*

Members Present:

Deborah Shigo, Chair Merry Lineweber

Roger Burkhart Michael Dionne, Vice Chair

Mark Jennings Jack Hackett

Kevin Sullivan

Members Absent:

Michael Kirwan

Staff: Seth Creighton, Chief Planner

**REGULAR MEETING**

**The Chair convened the regular meeting at 6:33p.m.**

**Minutes:** The regular meeting minutes of June 24, 2015 were reviewed. A motion was made by

 Mr. Dionne and seconded by Ms. Lineweber to accept the regular minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

**1) Discussion:**  Hope Farm open house: Ms. Shigo explained she went to the farm before the meeting and the property owners were working on getting the property ready and signs hung for the open house. Mr. Jennings said he had also met with the property owners and walked the property to view the invasive species. Mr. Jennings explained he has pictures and fact sheets of the different invasive plant species and has assembled them in a binder. Ms. Lineweber said she has samples of each invasive species.

Ms. Shigo informed the Commission that NRCS and SELT had dropped off pamphlets. Mr. Dionne and Mr. Sullivan said they will bring NH Fish and Game items such as banners and information pamphlets. Ms. Shigo said the owners will have a farmers market going on.

**2) Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber / Intent to Excavate:** The Commission reviewed the Intent to Cut and Intent to Excavate applications. Mr. Jennings asked if “MBF” (1,000’s of board feet)” can be changed to BF (board feet) on the intent to cut applications so it’s clearer. Mr. Dionne asked how timber tax is applied if the anticipated MBF figure is a range.

**3)** **New Business:** Planning Staff informed the Commission that Waterstone’s next phase of development would include approximately 3 acres of wetland filling and mitigation, and that Waterstone wanted to meet with the Commission about this and work with them on a mitigation plan.

The Con Com requested the following be provided/answered by the applicant:

1) 11”x17” plan, with topo, showing the wetland and proposed development/fill.

2) A wetlands Functions and Values Report, for the affected wetland.

3)  The Commission is concerned that the wetland fill may disrupt upstream/downstream flowage (surface water/wetland flows).

4) a) What is the size of the proposed wetland fill (in acres)?

     b) What is the estimated dollar amount that the State will assign to this fill?

5) The Con Com would like to walk the property.  They asked that the wetlands be flagged and the area to be filled be marked.

**4)** **Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II(d):- (if necessary), Discussion of acquisition of real property and/or recent site walks and LACE sheets** *At 7:27 pm A motion was made by Mr. Dionne and seconded by Mr. Sullivan to go into non pubic session. The motion carried unanimously.*

At 8:23pm the public session resumed.

**Adjournment:** *At 8:29 p.m. A motion was made by Mr. Dionne and seconded by Mr. Hackett to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Creighton, Chief Planner