

City of Rochester Conservation Commission

Wednesday May 23, 2018

City Council Chambers

31 Wakefield Street, Rochester, NH 03867

(These minutes were approved on June 27, 2018)

Members Present:

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

Members Absent: None.

Staff: Seth Creighton, Chief Planner

Mr. Dionne convened the meeting at 6:35pm

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

The minutes for April 25, 2018 were reviewed; Mr. Jennings suggested one edit. A motion to approve the minutes with changes made by Ms. Lulek, seconded by Mr. Kirwan, all voted in favor.

2. Discussion:

a) Ms. Lineweber discussed the community garden on Franklin Street and said she is interested in rejuvenating and making it into an active garden again. There was discussion among the Commission as to if the City Council would support this and how they would get water to the site. Ms. Lineweber said that she had spoken with Mr. Camara (GIS Technician, City of Rochester) and he suggested that Mr. Creighton reach out to DPW to see if a waterline could be installed here. The Commission had several questions including: How are the garden plots awarded?, monitored?, and publicized?; Who runs the program?; Are there other areas in the City where these could go?. Mr. Creighton stated that these questions had been asked by the Commission last spring and that no answers could be found. He also stated that last year the Commission had suggested that community gardens be made available on the land of the City's water treatment plant on Route 11, but that the Chief Water Operator did not support this. Mr. Creighton said that he would ask Department of Public Works if water is/can be available to the Franklin St gardens. He also suggested that if community gardens are to expand/change then the City Council will need to support such, and this would require the Commission speaking with the City Council.

b) Ms. Lineweber asked if any Commission member would like to partake in the upcoming Wings and Wheels event on June 2nd. Mr. Jennings said he may be interested.

c) Ms. Lineweber asked if any Commission member is interested in participating in the Farmer's Markets to discuss invasive plants and hand out pamphlets. Ms. Lulek said she is interested. Mr. Creighton suggested that Ms. Lineweber work with Jenn Marsh, Economic Development Specialist, City of Rochester as Ms. Marsh is the City's contact for the Farmer's Market.

d) Ms. Lineweber said the Conservation Commission webpage on the City's website is uninviting and unattractive and should list more information about the Commission. Mr. Creighton asked the members to review the website and come to the next meeting with ideas on how to improve it.

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)

Mr. Crieghton explained that the Intent to Cut was for a Waste Management project that the Commission had previously approved. The Intent to excavate permit was Pike's annual renewal for their existing excavation pit. There were no concerns from any of the Commission members on these items.

6. New Business:

a) BendonAdams

Mr. Creighton informed the Commission the consultants from BendonAdams would be here on May 30th and invited them to attend one of the discussion groups that would be held downtown. These consultants have been tasked with drafting revised architectural design guidelines for the Historic Overlay District and for suggesting density requirements for the Downtown Commercial District.

7. Old Business:

Mr. Dionne talked to the Commission about his work at NH Fish and Game regarding fish ladders.

8. Reports:

a) Technical Review Group: Mr. Jennings told the Commission there was not a TRG meeting held.

b) Planning Board: Mr. Creighton informed the Commission the Subdivision for 685 Salmon Falls Road had been approved at the last Planning Board meeting.

Mr. Creighton informed the Commission that the City has awarded a firm to update the Transportation Master Plan. He said they will be working on it over the next year and the Commission will be involved in some of the discussions.

9. Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II(d): At 7:21 pm Mr. Kirwan motioned to move into a nonpublic session, Mr. Sullivan seconded, the motion passed. Discussion of acquisition of real property and/or recent site walks and LACE sheets.

At 8:50 pm the public session resumed.

10. Adjournment: Mr. Sullivan motioned to adjourn at 8:50 pm; Mr. Jennings seconded. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Creighton, Chief Planner