

Rochester Conservation Commission

Minutes of August 28, 2019

(These minutes were approved on September 25, 2019)

Members Present:

Mark Jennings	Barbara Soley	Kevin Sullivan	Mike Dionne
Sheila Lulek	Meredeth Lineweber	Dan Nickerson	

Members Absent: Michael Kirwan

Staff: Seth Creighton, Chief Planner (ABSENT)

Mr. Dionne convened the meeting at 6:30 pm

- 1.) **Minutes:** the meeting minutes of July 24, 2019 were reviewed, edits were suggested by Mr. Jennings and Ms. Lineweber. Ms. Lineweber made a motion to accept the minutes with the discussed edits and Mr. Jennings seconded. The motion passed.
- 2.) **Conservation Overlay District:** NONE
- 3.) **NH Department of Environmental Services Applications:**
 - a. Index Packaging, Innovation Drive: Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Dionne, and Mr. Jennings informed the group about the site walk they conducted a few weeks ago. It was noted that the clearing around the power lines was much larger than is typically observed because the power lines were moved further back on the site from their previous location. During the site walk it was reiterated that a significant portion of the wetlands impact was related to a road proposed to be built at the end of the project site closest to the airport. As was discussed at the July 24th meeting of the commission, the City of Rochester had expressed interest in including this road in the plans for potential future use. It was also noted that over most of the project site there was no readily apparent water features and that much of the wetlands impacted appeared to be seasonal. The most significant wetlands were just outside the proposed area of construction.
- 4.) **Discussion:** Mr. Jennings gave a brief lesson on how to conduct the VRAP Water Quality Monitoring that he has been conducting over the past year for NHDES. He provided the Commission with a VRAP Con Com Report/Worksheet that he had created which showed the data elements collected and provided a brief explanation of each item. Mr. Jennings offered to take any interested members along with him for a sampling trip and said he usually conducted them on Mondays. Ms. Lineweber noted that the Rochester Fair was coming up and she was planning to have a table about invasive species. Ms. Lineweber also told the commission that the Farmer's Market was continuing and that they cannot use the arena for the remainder of the year because they have begun to make ice for the season. Ms. Lineweber said that she had spoken with a resident named Nancy Gilbert who was interested in talking to the Conservation Commission about saving the Rochester Fairgrounds. Ms. Lineweber said that she witnessed some conversations and disagreements with a male individual at the Emmanuel Senior Breakfast about his dislike of the rain-garden wetlands area at the front of the church, so she and Mr. Creighton provided documentation to the church outlining the maintenance of the feature.
- 5.) **Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber/Intent to Excavate:**
 - a) Notice of Intent to Cut - Tax Map 207-1, Chestnut Hill Rd / Little Falls Bridge Rd.

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b) Notice of Intent to Cut - Tax Map 256A-66-21, Athenian Dr/Old Dover Road The The commission went over these Intent to Cut notices and had no concerns or issues to raise with either of them.

- 6.) New Business:** Mr. Jennings informed the commission about a cell phone tower that was proposed on a property at 144 Meaderboro Rd. It was a fairly straightforward project with an access road to the location of the proposed tower, which would be anchored with a subsurface cement ballast. The commission scheduled a site walk of the property for 9:00 am on August 31, 2019. Mr. Jennings also told the commission that the housing subdivision across the street from the East Rochester School was still continuing to be built out and that although it was located across from the school, students walking to the school had to transit up Portland St to the intersection with Salmon Falls Rd to cross at the crosswalk before walking back down towards the school. Mr. Jennings noted that from the TRG there was a proposed new car dealership sited to be located across from the Poulin Dealership (former site of Thompson Center Fire arms building).
- 7.) Non-Public Session** *pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (d): Discussion of acquisition of real property and/or recent site walks LACE Sheets:* A motion was made by Mr. Dionne to enter into to non-public and seconded by Ms. Soley.
- 8.) Old Business:** NONE
- 9.) Adjournment:** Mr. Jennings motioned to adjourn at (8:32 pm), and Ms. Lulek seconded. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Sullivan