

**NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES****March 25th, 2019, 6:00 PM****Wellesley Middle School, Room 319**

Attending: Regina LaRocque, Chair; Raina McManus, Vice Chair; Laura Robert; Katie Griffith; Brandon Schmitt, Director.

Public Speak

No one from the public was in attendance.

New and Continuing Business/Liaison Reports

- **March 7, 2019 Open Meeting Law Violation Complaint:** Ms. Larocque acknowledged a complaint received by the board. After a motion was made and seconded, the board voted unanimously to permit Town Counsel to respond to the complaint. The board also reiterated their commitment to transparency, and agreed to not discuss any matters that were not posted 48 hours in advance unless it was an emergency.
- **Playing Fields Task Force updates:** Ms. Griffith reported on several Playing Fields Task Force projects, including the softball field renovations, and the RFP for amenities at the High School.
- **Grow Green Wellesley updates**
Ms. Robert and Ms. Griffith reported on their collaboration with the Wellesley Conservation Council on the City Nature Challenge. Ms. Griffith also reported on educational activities she and NRC staff Lisa Moore led at Bates. Ms. McManus reported on the *Its Vital not to Idle* campaign.
- **Trails update:** Ms. Robert reported that members of the Trails Committee will be leading one of the City Nature challenge walks.
- **Gas Leaks update:** This item was not discussed.
- **Discussion of waste reduction efforts in town:** The board discussed ongoing efforts to reduce waste in Town, including the recruitment of volunteers to help adopt portions of Route 9, and volunteer efforts to clean up elsewhere in Town. Mr. Schmitt and NRC staff will attempt to connect with business partners for the adopt-a-highway program.

Director's Report

- **Wellesley Office Park:** Mr. Schmitt reviewed a meeting he attended with the developers for the Wellesley Office park project.
- **Update on implementation of Town Forest management plan:** The board discussed possible signage, and agreed that the draft signage should be purchased.
- **Update on roadside clean-up initiative:** See above.
- **Tree Preservation Bylaw:** The board reviewed materials from the Tree preservation bylaw audit conducted by NRC and Planning staff. Mr. Schmitt will create a summary of findings to date for future review.

- **Beaver Activity at State Street Pond:** Mr. Schmitt reported that beavers have been active at State street and are destroying newly planted trees. The board authorized him to work with the DPW to resolve the issue.
- **Permits, if any:** N/A

Approve Minutes/Schedule future meetings

After a motion was made and seconded, the board voted unanimously to approve the 3/7/2019 minutes as amended.

Urgent items not anticipated prior to 48 hours of meeting

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Brandon Schmitt, Director