



NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

April 8th, 2019, 5:00 PMWellesley Middle School, Room 319

Attending: Regina LaRocque, NRC Chair; Raina McManus, Vice Chair; Laura Robert; Katie Griffith; Brandon Schmitt, Director; Jack Morgan, Chair, Board of Selectmen; Marjorie Freiman, Vice Chair, Board of Selectmen; NRC applicants Allison Burson, Nancy Braun, Deed McCollum, and Jim Miller

Guests: Anne Marvan, Chris Turco, Joe Roberts, Andrew Komjathy, Jay McHale, Krisann Miller, Martha Collins, Jerry Nigro, Patti Quigley, Kathy Lasch, Tracy Turco, Joelle Reidy, Shelia Olson

Public Speak

No one spoke on a non-agenda item.

Appointments and NRC Vacancy

Resident Shelia Olson spoke in support of appointing Jim Miller to the NRC Board. Ms. LaRocque welcomed everyone, stated that the NRC was fortunate to have four very qualified applicants apply for the 1-year appointment, and explained the appointment process.

The board heard introductory remarks from all four applicants. The candidates then answered questions posed to them by the Commissioners.

Board members then ranked the four applicants, and Ms. McCollum and Ms. Braun emerged as the top two choices. *After a motion was made and seconded, the board voted 2-2 to appoint Deed McCollum, and the motion failed.* After discussion, *a second motion was made and seconded, and the board voted 3 to 1 to move Nancy Braun as their preferred candidate to present to the Selectmen.* Ms. LaRocque then thanked all of the candidates for presenting themselves and for the work they are currently doing, and encouraged them to engage with the NRC.

New and Continuing Business/Liaison Reports

- **Beavers at State Street:** Mr. Schmitt informed the board that one beaver had been trapped on April 5th, and there had been no activity since. The trap has since been removed from the pond.
- **Pesticide lawn sign program/Grow Green Wellesley:** Mr. Schmitt reported that nearly all of the registered pesticide free lawns have received a Healthy Lawn Sign.
- **City Nature Challenge:** The board discussed the upcoming Bio-blitz data collection event, including training and publicity for the activity.

- **3R Working Group:** The group is working to arrange a meeting in May. **Roadside clean up:** The board discussed various strategies to promote litter cleanups in Wellesley.
- **Tree planting program:** Mr. Schmitt explained that office staff have visited roughly 60 homes for the Tree planting program. Only 2 residents have contacted the office regarding the reforestation of Duxbury Road.
- **Town Meeting Business: Lighting Bylaw -** The board discussed the proposed lighting bylaw, and agreed Commissioners would comment individually rather than issuing a statement from the NRC.

Director's Report

- **Bench location request: Morton Street @ Fuller Brook Park.** *After a motion was made and seconded, the board voted unanimously to approve a bench at the location outlined in the plan.*
- **Support/signing on to S. 499/H. 792 An Act Relative to the Use of Glyphosate on Public Lands. Support/signing on to H. 776/S. 447 An Act empowering towns and cities to protect residents and the environment from harmful pesticides.** The board agreed to authorize Ms. LaRocque and Mr. Schmitt to issue letters on the NRC's behalf.
- **Permits, if any:** This item was not discussed.

Approve Minutes/Schedule future meetings

After a motion was made and seconded, the board voted unanimously to approve the 3/25/2019 and 4/2/2019 minutes.

Urgent items not anticipated prior to 48 hours of meeting

N/A

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandon Schmitt