



## NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Approved 9-19-2019

August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019, 7:00 PMRoom 008, Warren Building

**Attending:** Raina McManus, Vice Chair; Laura Robert, Secretary; Nancy Braun; Brandon Schmitt, Director

**Public Speak**

No one spoke on a non-agenda item.

**New and Continuing Business/Liaison Reports**

- **FY19 Annual Report Approval:** The board approved the final FY19 annual report.
- **Retreat Planning:** The board discussed plans for the upcoming retreat.
- **Tree Preservation Bylaw Update:** Ms. Robert and Ms. Woodward from the Planning board will be meeting to discuss next steps.
- **Playing Fields Task Force:** Nothing was reported on this issue.
- **Outreach and Education:** Mr. Schmitt reported that Lisa Moore will be coordinating with the Elementary Science Curriculum staff to lead workshops with the watershed table.
- **Roadside and Town-wide clean up:** Mr. Schmitt reported that the High School Football Cleanup was rescheduled for Saturday August 24<sup>th</sup>.
- **Grow Green Wellesley:** This item was not discussed.
- **Statewide Plastic Bag Ban:** Ms. McManus reported concerns about the statewide bag ban, which would weaken the local plastic bag regulations.
- **Current Town Projects:** Mr. Schmitt updated the board on the Wellesley Office park project and the board read and reviewed a letter from the NRC to the Board of Selectmen regarding opposition to use of natural gas to heat the residential units. Mr. Schmitt updated the board on a request from the softball Field fund-raising group on various donor recognition options. Ms. Robert noted that she wanted a cohesive design throughout the park, and thought the existing signage at Reidy was a great model. The board discussed progress on the Morses Pond erosion mitigation project.
- **Spencer Meyer Presentation Outreach:** Ms. Robert announced the North 40 trail and Bio-blitz still in development to occur on September 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.
- **Watershed/Wellhead Protection:** This item was not discussed.
- **Gas Leaks:** Mr. Schmitt reported that he will be attending a meeting of the Gas Leaks allies in Arlington to discuss regional efforts to improve communication with National Grid.
- **Whole Foods Lot ZBA comments:** The board reviewed a follow-up letter to the Zoning Board of Appeals regarding the expansion of the parking lot at Whole Foods. Ms. Robert will provide additional comments before the letter is sent to the ZBA.

**Director's Report**

- **Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program Contract:** Mr. Schmitt reported that the NRC received 4 responses to a Request for Proposal, and interviews with the favored vendors will be scheduled for next week.
- **Charles River Compact:** There was no update on this topic.
- **NRC contract/Project Updates:** Duck Pond Bridge Update: Mr. Schmitt updated the board on comments from the Design Review Board, and that the project would be discussed at the next DRB meeting.
- **Permits, if any:** Mr. Schmitt reported that the World of Wellesley event was permitted for 8/25 at Warren park, and that he had met with applicants for the High School Banquet, who would investigate using the basketball courts to hold their event.

**Approve Minutes/Schedule future meetings**

8/1/2019: This item was not discussed.

**Urgent items not anticipated prior to 48 hours of meeting**

N/A

**Adjournment**

After a motion was made and seconded, the board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:32 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Brandon Schmitt, Director