

## **Natural Resource Commission Minutes**

**February 18, 2016**

**7:00 PM**

### **Call to Order:**

Chair Larson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

### **Roll Call:**

Present: Chair Bob Larson and Commissioners David White, Kate Winsor, Darrell Turnock, John Murphy, and NOHOA Liaison Diane Gorder.

Absent: City Council Liaison Marty Long.

Staff: Administrative Assistant Linda Hanson.

### **Approval of Agenda:**

**Commissioner Winsor moved to approve the Agenda. Commissioner Murphy seconded.**

**Motion approved unanimously.**

### **Approval of Minutes:**

**Commissioner Gorder moved to approve the January 21, 2016 minutes. With a second from Commissioner White, the motion carried unanimously.**

### **Deer Management Update:**

Chair Larson reported that he went on the second fly over to count deer. They had good visibility, but he was surprised at how difficult it was to spot a deer. They counted 50 deer. So far 86 have been eliminated with an ideal goal of less than 8 per square mile. The NRC would like a copy of the deer management memo sent out the previous week. Secretary Hanson agreed to pass this request on to City Administrator Mike Robertson. The Commissioners also felt it would be a good idea to ask Dr. Brooke Moore, Chair of the Tick Task Force, to send out an email blast through NOHOA giving an update of what the Task Force is doing.

### **Water Resources Best Practices:**

The NRC is looking at Best Practices to preserve water resources. Currently there is a lot of information on dealing with wetlands. A concise list of all resources would be a good idea. It was suggested that the Commissioners request brochures and continue to gather information. The Garden Club meets early in May and it would be good to have the information if possible. An idea of asking VLAWMO to do a rain garden presentation with the NRC Commissioners also present might get some interest. Commissioners would like to see more residents attend NRC activities.

The NRC would like to see information about recycling hazardous waste on the City website. Administrative Assistant Linda Hanson has agreed to inform Administrative Assistant Kathy Laur so she can add this to the site. Residents can also go to [www.Ramseyrecycles.com](http://www.Ramseyrecycles.com).

**Other Business:**

It was suggested that research should be started on how to keep wildlife wild in an urban space. Commissioners Winsor and Murphy agreed to look into the issue and report back.

Commissioner Gorder stated that VLAWMO often has money for educational projects. She reported that NOHOA had an idea to do an educational video on shoreline preservation and what North Oaks has done on this issue. She stated that perhaps it could be a joint project between NOHOA and the City. The idea is to have the NRC complete an application for funds and NOHOA would then do the video. Commissioner Gorder explained that she mentioned this to Kevin Scattum, former Cable TV technician, who has an interest in doing the video. Money appears to still be available at this time. Commissioner Murphy stated that he thinks it is a good idea, but that privacy must be respected in the process. Also, the money given would have to be matched by either the City, NOHOA, or outside funding. Shoreline preservation has been going on for quite a while in North Oaks.

Another popular idea that came up was to have Community bike tours to show what has been done. A self-guided tour could be developed using educational signs where restoration has taken place. Commissioner White stated that if VLAWMO was involved privacy might not be an issue, but one thing to consider is which group should seek funding. Would that impact the privacy issue? It was decided that this would be a question for former NOHOA President Mark Azman.

It was decided that Commissioners Murphy, Gorder, and Larson would all work on a grant application. The aim of the request would be education and hopefully information could be shared on the City, NOHOA and VLAWMO website.

Commissioner Winsor continues to work on articles for the North Oaks News. The latest was on the impact of dumping leaves in the wetlands. She will continue to write articles including some on best practices for preservation of water and the forest. It was suggested that Ms. Gorder also put the articles on the NRC Facebook page.

Commissioner White also asked the secretary to put the March 1, 2016 Caucus information on the City website.

**Adjournment:**

**Commissioner David White with a second from Commissioner Darrell Turnock made the motion to adjourn at 7:48 pm. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Next Meeting: March 17, 2016.**