

RYE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION

**Tuesday, July 20, 2021
5:00 p.m. – Rye Town Hall**

Commissioners Present: Chair Tim Sanborn, James Farrelly and Mark Troy

Also Present: Sarah MacGregor from Dragon Mosquito Control

I. Call to Order

Chair Sanborn called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes from last meeting

- **June 16, 2021**

- During discussion about the Rye Civic League Newsletter: It should have been noted in the minutes that Chair Sanborn sent an abbreviated update for the Rye Civic News on May 29th, as that was the deadline for publishing. Chair Sanborn noted that he captured some high-level points for the Rye Citizens that he thought each resident would be able to relate to.

**Motion by Tim Sanborn to approve the minutes of June 16, 2021 as amended.
Seconded by Mark Troy. All in favor.**

III. Old Business

1. Ride-along with Dragon (walkabout)

Ms. MacGregor noted that the walkabout didn't happen over the last marsh spray because it was during the heat wave. The spray after that was scheduled because of the rain and the staff was out there during the remnants of Hurricane Elsa. She noted they are doing a marsh spray next week. She is hoping there will be good weather, so it will be a great time to be out there and not life-threatening conditions.

IV. New Business

1. Dragon Update – Sarah McGregor; Dragon field work/green head trap status

Ms. MacGregor noted that the marshes were treated again. There was record setting heat in June and record setting rain in July, so that makes a recipe for many bugs and mosquitos. The difference the crews are seeing this year, as compared to last year which was a drought, is that

the mosquitos are everywhere; catch basins, saltmarshes, containers and ditches, etc. It's a perfect time of year to remind people to dump out containers that may be on their property, overturn the canoe and/or empty the wheel barrow, which are all habitats for mosquitos to breed.

Ms. MacGregor noted they are now trapping mosquitos and sending them to the State for disease testing. The only thing that has come back positive is Jamestown Canyon Virus in the Concord area. West Nile has started in Massachusetts. New Hampshire tends to be two to three weeks behind Massachusetts. She anticipates there will be more disease this summer due to all the rain. Ms. MacGregor pointed out that July tends to be a very active month on the marshes.

The greenhead traps are out (184). They are seeing very high numbers in the traps. There have also been a lot of complaints this year with regard to greenheads.

2. Dragon Invoice

The Commission reviewed Dragon Mosquito Control's invoice #31291 in the amount of \$13,125 for June services. Chair Sanborn noted that all charges listed in the invoice are consistent with what has been budgeted for monthly costs.

Motion by Tim Sanborn to approve invoice #31291 in the amount of \$13,125. Seconded by Mark Troy. All in favor.

3. Resident Education – Pest Unwanted Posters

Chair Sanborn explained that the idea is to hand the posters out to any local establishments in Rye that would accept them, as a public service announcement for the community. The Commissioners agreed to pass them out and to keep a list of the businesses contacted.

4. Communications with Rye Civic League

It was noted that the Rye Civic League is looking for short updates with high-level information for the Civic League News. Steve Borne is the contact person for the Civic League, as he prepares the newsletter each month.

Commissioner Farrelly volunteered to prepare updates for the Civic League News based on updates submitted to the Commission by Dragon, which are sent monthly via email. He will send the Commission's updates to Steve Borne.

5. Lyme Disease

Ms. McGregor submitted a flyer giving information about Lyme Disease and how to prevent it. The Commission agreed the information is important and should be added to their page on the Town's website.

6. Meeting Schedule

The Commission will continue to meet the third Tuesday of the month.

V. Next meeting date: August 17, 5:00 p.m., Town Hall

Adjournment

Motion by Tim Sanborn to adjourn at 5:30 p.m. Seconded by Mark Troy. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger