

RYE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Monday August 15, 2022
5:00 p.m. – Town Hall

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

I. Call to Order

Chair Sanborn called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes – 7/19/2022

**Motion by James Farrelly to approve the minutes of July 19, 2022 as presented.
Seconded by Mark Troy. All in favor.**

III. Old Business

1. Rye Citizen Education – Poster Distribution

Chair Sanborn suggested that in 2023, an email be sent to the commission members listing the locations. At that point, the Commission can divide up the placement of the posters at the different locations.

Commissioner Troy agreed to put together the list to be distributed in April or May.

IV. New Business

- 1. Dragon Update** – Sarah MacGregor; Dragon field work/greenhead trap status
 - *No update as Sarah MacGregor was not present at the meeting.*

2. Dragon Invoice Approval

Motion by Tim Sanborn to approve Dragon Invoice #31790 in the amount of \$12,150. Seconded by Mark Troy. All in favor.

3. Communications with Rye Civic League

Member Farrelly will keep working on writing up something for the Civic League. He will try to get something to Steve Borne within a couple of days after the monthly meetings each month.

V. Other Business

Commissioner Farrelly noted that David Burdick, Associate Professor at U.N.H Department of Natural Resources, will be giving a presentation on 'Why Healthy Tidal Marshes Matter' on September 15th, 6:30 p.m. at the Rye Public Library.

Chair Sanborn pointed out that Mike Morrison from Swamp, Inc. focuses on marsh management in the yearly bid for mosquito control for Rye. Mike believes towns should be doing more marsh management, which would reduce the need for larviciding and associated tasks. Chair Sanborn has given Swamp the opportunity to make a presentation to the Commission and the Select Board. This may be the next step in getting a better handle on what the approach might look like for the town. Until Mr. Morrison is willing to give a presentation, they will continue to go with status quo.

Referring to Dragon's submitted report and invoice, Member Troy stated that he has reviewed the materials. It seems that things are moving along quite smoothly.

Chair Sanborn agreed. He commented that the work seems to be consistent with what he has seen over the past years. He also appreciates Ms. MacGregor accommodating the request of the Rye resident to move a few greenhead traps closer to 175 Harbor Road. Ms. MacGregor tried to effectively balance the needs of the Rye resident with the greenhead trap science. He commented that he doesn't believe it's an exact science and the quantity of greenheads can vary greatly from season to season for many reasons. He certainly sympathizes with Bruce Valley who said that for five years, there were three or four traps in his area and there were no issues. Now, there are none and he is getting bit.

Commissioner Troy pointed out that these traps are owned by the town and there is a professional who knows where to place the traps. He agrees with trying to accommodate the public. However, sometimes the public can't be told "yes" to everything.

Chair Sanborn agreed. In a case like this, it's a simple matter of trying to balance the needs of the residents.

Commissioner Farrelly suggested there be an evaluation of the traps and their locations. Traps may be moved around, but he doesn't think they should go from three traps to zero in an area. The whole point of the Commission is to address residents' issues and try to accommodate them if possible.

Chair Sanborn noted that in the August meeting, the Commission usually approves spraying for the schools, Parsons Field and the recreation area.

Motion by Tim Sanborn to approve spraying at the schools, Parsons Field and the recreation area, pending the process that Dragon follows to notify the schools and the recreation department that this will be done consistent with the timeframe prior to when school starts. Seconded by James Farrelly. All in favor.

VI. Next Meeting Date: September 20, 2022 at 5:00 p.m., Rye Town Hall

Adjourn

Motion by Tim Sanborn to adjourn at 5:24 p.m. Seconded by James Farrelly. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger