

2018 FEB 28 PM 1:13

MEETING MINUTES
Belmont Conservation Commission
December 5, 2017 Meeting Minutes
Room 2 Town Hall
7:00 pm

Attendees:

Members: Jim Roth (Chairman); Jeff North; Peg Velie; Chris Morris; Charles Chiang;

Others: Mary Trudeau; Mark P. Smith; Kelly Durfee Cardoza (Avalon Consulting); Paul McManus (Eco-Tec); Michael Rose (Belmont Country Club)

7:05 Review of Minutes of November 14, 2017 meeting

The Commission reviewed the minutes of the November 14, 2017 meeting.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the vote was to approve the minutes as amended.

7:10 Certificate of Compliance for 34 Agassiz Avenue (106-105):

The Commission reviewed the recent information submitted by Paul Finger Associates on behalf the Belmont Manor. Photographs documented the successful vegetation within the rain garden at the west end of the site, and Mary Trudeau noted that she had viewed the site earlier in the season, as well.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the vote was to approve the issuance of a full Certificate of Compliance for the DEP file number 106-105.

7:20 Minor Modification to Approved Site Plan at 100 Clifton Street (106-119)

The contractor presented a proposal to replace the existing, failed electrical service line with new conduit. Due to the geometry of the street connection, a small portion of the work will be within the 25 foot buffer zone. The Commission reviewed alternatives to this disturbance, and agreed that the conduit location could not be reasonably modified. The Commission requested that no equipment be staged behind the existing siltation control fencing, and that all spoils be set above the erosion control barrier, as well.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the vote was unanimous to approve the temporary disturbance of the 0 to 25 foot buffer zone to allow for the placement of an electrical conduit, running between Clifton Street and the new home on the lot.

7:25 Sheep Grazing Pilot Program for summer of 2018 (Joan Teebagy)

Joan Teebagy presented a proposal for grazing of sheep and goats at Rock Meadow for the 2018 summer season. Due to the increased predation by coyotes, Joan proposes to install a temporary, double fenced area for the grazing area. Joan noted that she will, again, try to incorporate goats into the grazing program, and that the more secure fence may provide the additional protection required by goats. Joan noted that she has increased her use of volunteers, and that the gardeners are thankful for the manure generated by the animals.

Joan noted that the grass quality was excellent this past summer, and that this was in response to wet conditions early in the growing season. She stated that her "end" date for grazing reflects both the condition of the grass, and the availability of a slot at the slaughter house.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the vote was unanimous to approve an additional season of grazing within the parameters of the Pilot Program established over the past few years.

7:30 Continued Public Hearing: Notice of Intent Application: Belmont Country Club (106- 131)

As requested at the November 17, 2017 Public Hearing, Kelly Cardoza and Paul McManus appeared before the Commission to submit additional information requested by the Board. The discussion included revisions to the Water Quality Certification application; information on flow characteristics within Clematis Brook; construction details; traffic control issues; and conditions for obtaining a Certificate of Compliance at the completion of the project.

The Commission discussed the need for an independent monitor for the project, noting that the monitor will be responsible for monitoring turbidity, as well as the volumes of material hauled from the waterway. The Commission discussed an appropriate method of determining excessive turbidity, and agreed upon a strategy of limits based on the background conditions found in the waterway at the time of the commencement of work. It was agreed that the project proponent would be required to submit a monitoring plan, for review and approval, as a condition of the Order of Conditions.

The Commission discussed the need for survey data during the dredging project, as a means of determining the necessary extent of the work. Paul McManus noted that the contractor would have this capability.

The Commission discussed the timing and duration of the work. Noting that the project was likely to be done at night, and staged from Town roads, the Commission suggested that the logistics of the work be reviewed by the Belmont Department of Public Works and the Belmont Police Department.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the vote was unanimous to issue an Order of Conditions permitting the work as proposed in the Notice of Intent, and subsequent submittal of information.

Master Plan for Rock Meadow:

Mary Trudeau noted that she is working with Christine Zales, an assistant in the Community Development Office, to develop a scope of work for the Master Plan. The Commission suggested several potential sources of information, including: The Conway School of Design; BETA Group; PARE; Carol Johnson Associates; and the Sasaki consulting group.

Adjourn

Upon a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm; as well as a second to the motion, the meeting was adjourned.