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11/13/12
with changes

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MINUTES Belmont Conservation Commission Meeting

October 2, 2012 in Room 2 Town Hall at 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

Attendance: Chair: James Roth; David Webster, Tino Lichauco, William McCants, Margaret Velie, Miriam Weil and Mary Trudeau (agent)

Tom Grimble – Land Management Committee

Review of Minutes of September 11, 2012

Miriam Weil moved that the Commission approve the minutes of the August 7, 2012 meeting of the Belmont Conservation Commission. Faustino Lichauco seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Rock Meadow Gardens

Mary Trudeau noted that Joe Finn has continued to mow the paths, and that the annual Meadow mowing by Bruce Scherer had been completed. She also noted that the WHIP grant allowed for a lime application this year, and that a contractor had agreed to do the work conditioned in the Management Plan.

Belmont Serves Workday on October 8, 2012

David Webster discussed the upcoming work day, and noted that there were several projects to be done at Rock Meadow. David requested that Mary Trudeau order stone dust/and or clay gravel, to be used in patching holes in the parking area. Stone dust can also be used to repair sediment loss in the stairway to the west of the parking lot. David noted that Barbara Gardner had agreed to supervise a work crew, and was interested in restoring the plantings at the Mill Street entrance to the site. Mary Trudeau asked that plants be purchased at Hillside Gardens to allow for reimbursement. William McCants stated that he would be working with a crew at Clay Pit pond.

Coal Road Repairs, Land Management Committee:

Tom Grimble, representing the Land Management Committee reviewed the condition of the Coal Road, noting that repairs were required to control erosion and sedimentation. Tom noted that a full depth reconstruction of the road could be a 120,000 dollar job, but that low tech solutions would improve the situation at far less expense.

Tom noted that erosion appears to be the result of spring flow beneath the roadway. Poor maintenance of Junction Brook has caused flows to jump the bank of the brook, and carve into the roadway. He noted that several simple tasks would improve the situation:

1. Removing the log and debris blocking portions of the channel of Junction Brook;
2. Regrade the surface of the road, adding a water bar to the surface;
3. "Pave" the road with densely graded material in poorly stabilized sections;
4. Intercept overland storm water flow and force it into Junction Brook by rebuilding damaged sections of the stream bank.

Mr. Grimble asked the Commission to discuss the scope of the various tasks, and to provide direction regarding the various permit options for the work proposed. The Commission discussed the work, noting that the cleaning of the brook to remove obstructions and the interception of storm water through the reconstruction of damaged Bank areas would be considered maintenance work. The Commission noted that any earthwork, grading or paving of the roadway would require the filing of an application with the Conservation Commission.

50 Moraine Street: Enforcement Action Update

Mary Trudeau stated that she had met with the owner of the property (Nick LaFauci) and inspected the erosion and sedimentation controls at the limit of work line. She noted that the owner was not doing any work at the present time, and was considering development options for the site. Mr. LaFauci stated that he was not bringing any more fill onto the site, and Ms Trudeau noted that the 0 to 100 foot Riverfront Area appeared untouched by the work done on the site. The erosion and sedimentation control barrier is appropriate for the containment of the existing stockpiles of earth materials, and allowing the owner to file a Notice of Intent for proposed work later this year would be appropriate.

Wetlands Bylaw:

The Commission discussed the value of a wetlands bylaw. The sentiment of the board was that the protection of streams could be enhanced by a bylaw or a policy that stated the Commission's findings on the perennial or intermittent character of the various waterways in Belmont. The Commission discussed the mapping of sensitive resources in the Town.

Remote Attendance at Public Meetings

The Commission met with the Selectmen on September 24 to determine whether they would be willing to accept remote attendance as a means of attending public hearings or meetings. The Commission has a member who will be, at least temporarily, out of town during the week and would like to continue as a member of the Conservation Commission. The Selectmen stated that they were not approving remote attendance for Boards and Committees in Belmont at this time. Reasons expressed included a belief that it could be administratively burdensome to allow remote attendance.

CPA

The Commission discussed potential projects, and would like to go forward with a request for a landscaping plan for the Clay Pit Pond and a proposal for improving the

water supply at the Community Gardens. The landscaping plan would provide a master plan for the well used Clay Pit Pond park, and would detail the improvements needed to the walking path. The plan would allow for effective use of volunteer hours during the various community service days in Town. From the CPA funds, Belmont generates about \$1 million per year in CPA funds with 10 % percent allocated to Open Space.

Mary Trudeau agreed to research the potential of a landscaping plan for Clay Pit Pond to protect and preserve passive recreational opportunities and to submit a proposal for each of the projects by the October 20, 2012 deadline for preliminary applications.

UPLANDS (DEP 106-0072) update

The Commission discussed the recent developments in the Uplands filing.

James Roth moved, and the motion was seconded by David Webster to enter executive session to discuss litigation strategy. After a roll call vote, the Commission voted unanimously to go into executive session to discuss strategy related to litigation on the Uplands Project. (OADR Docket No. Wet 2008-072-R)

The Commission came back into open meeting at approximately 8:55 and adjourned at 9:05.

Next meeting: November 2, 2012

MEETING NOTICE
Belmont Conservation Commission
October 2, 2012 Agenda
Town Hall, Room 2
7:00 pm

AGENDA

- 7:00 Call to Order
- 7:10 Approval of Minutes September 11, 2012 meeting
- 7:15 Rock Meadow, Gardens and Mowing updates
- 7:20 Belmont Serves Day Update: Proposed work day projects
Rock Meadow, Clay Pit Pond and Lone Tree Hill
- 7:30 Enforcement Action Update for 50 Moraine Street
- 7:31 Coal Road Discussion at Lone Tree Hill – Tom Grimble
- 7:40 Discuss Wetlands Bylaw
- 7:45 Discuss Community Preservation Act Application Process and potential projects
- 7:50 UPLANDS (DEP 106-0072) update and discussion
Executive Session is possible to discuss litigation strategy of Superior Court
Action related to Superseding Order of Conditions appeal
- 9:00 Adjourn