

APPROVED

MINUTES: Belmont Conservation Commission Meeting November 1, 2011

The meeting was called to order in Room 2 of Town Hall at 7PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 6, 2011.

Attendance: David Webster, William McCants , Margaret Velie, Jeffrey North, Jim Roth, Mary Trudeau (Conservation Agent) and Brian Kelder (Associate).

Fiona and Eamon Casey (56 Fletcher Road)
Peter Castinino (Department of Public Works)
Joe DeStefano (DESCO)
Paul Finger (PFA)
Matt Goldman (Agassiz Avenue)

REVIEW OF MINUTES OF October 4, 2011

The minutes were reviewed by the Commission and discussed. Jim Roth made a motion to approve the minutes of October 4, 2011, as amended. The motion was seconded by Margaret Velie, and was passed unanimously.

250 Common Street – The Commission reviewed correspondence from LEC requesting that the Commission review the proposed construction of a patio at 250 Common Street. The Commission discussed the Riverfront Area restrictions, and the implications of 310 CMR 1058(6), agreeing that the work appeared to be an exempt minor project.

David Webster moved to agree with the applicant's interpretation that the work as proposed in the October 28, 2011 correspondence did not require the filing of a Notice of Intent. The motion was seconded by William McCants, and unanimously approved.

Snow Storage Discussion:

The Commission discussed the potential use of land within Rock Meadow for the temporary storage of snow by the Belmont Department of Public Works. Peter Castinino, Belmont Department of Public Works was present for the discussion. Mr. Castinino noted that the DPW required an area of approximately 40,000 square feet for use as a municipal snow storage area. He noted that the DPW would restrict access to the site, and that the snow storage would be limited to that removed by Town authorized vehicles from within the town of Belmont.

The Commission requested that the proposed snow storage area be staked at Rock Meadow. The Commission also requested that Mr Castinino research snow storage areas in other municipalities. Concerns included the conditions of the site, post melt, and the possibility of using other sites in Belmont. Mr. Castinino agreed to report back to the Commission at the December 6, 2011 meeting.

56 Fletcher Road – Notice of Intent filing (106-109)

Fiona and Eamon Casey appeared in the continued public hearing for the Notice of Intent to restore and revegetate wetland, buffer zone and Riverfront Area resource areas on the 56 Fletcher Road property. The Caseys noted that they had met with Mrs. Levandov and had agreed to increase the size of plantings in specific areas. Mrs. Casey also clarified that there was no mowing proposed within the shrub banks.

Jim Roth moved to issue an Order of Conditions with four (4) special conditions: That invasive plant species on the entire lot be controlled; that there be no mowing within shrub banks; that the applicant would work with the Levandovs in planting portions of the site with larger vegetation; and that seed mixes be applied as shown on the site plan. The motion was seconded by Jeff North and the motion passed unanimously.

34 and 74 Agassiz Avenue: Request for Determination (74 Agassiz Avenue) and Request for Minor Modification to Order of Conditions (106-105)

At the applicant's request, the RFD and Request for a Minor Modification were discussed simultaneously. Both proposals included work on 74 Agassiz Avenue, and the Request for a Minor Modification included work on 34 Agassiz Avenue, and other lots on Agassiz Avenue. The work consisted of landscaping changes to the approved site plan and included tree cutting, tree and shrub planting, reconstruction of retaining walls, construction of retaining walls and minor grading.

Jim Roth moved to issue a Negative (3) Determination of Applicability for 74 Agassiz Avenue, and the motion was seconded by Bill McCants. The motion passed unanimously.

Jim Roth moved to approve the minor modifications proposed to the site plan for DEP File Number (106-105) with the condition that work done was per the February 28, 2011 site plans and that any work to the Pines at the south end of the site be mitigated with a minimum of six (6') foot high Arbor vitae.

233 Prospect Street – Certificate of Compliance Request (106-107)

Jane Shoplick, representing the Beecroft's, submitted new photographs documenting the growth of the recently seeded areas. The Commission discussed the condition of the property at 233 Prospect Street. Mary Trudeau noted that the grass seed had germinated and the site appeared stabilized..

Jim Roth moved to issuance of a Certificate of Compliance. Margaret Velie seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Northland Development Request for Extension to DEP File Number 106-0028

The Commission reviewed a request for an extension of time for the Northland project on Mill Street.

Jeff North moved to extend the permit for a period of one year, noting that the Commission would entertain requests for further extensions only upon receipt of a status report updating the existing site conditions. The motion was seconded by Jim Roth, and was passed unanimously.

October 10, 2011 Belmont Serves Day:

David Webster noted that he and Barbara Gardner organized the work party for Rock Meadow and that approximately 23 volunteers worked clipping vegetation and cleaning Rock Meadow. William McCants noted that he had volunteered at Clay Pit Pond, and that approximately 40 to 50 volunteers had been in this location. Jeffrey North stated that approximately 25 volunteers had been at Lone Tree Hill.

Community Service Work Day:

Miriam Weil worked with the High School to create a project for the Community Service Work day on October 22, 2011.

Joe Finn and Lone Tree Hill Mowing:

Jeff North noted that Joe Finn had volunteered to mow Lone Tree Hill prior to the opening of the park, and that the work had been beautifully done.

Community Preservation Act:

Margaret Velie discussed her last meeting with the CPA committee. She asked for project suggestions to bring to the forum.

Land Management Committee:

Jim Roth nominated Jeffrey North to the Land Management Committee. The motion was seconded by Margaret Velie, and unanimously approved. There was one abstention.

Uplands Project:

The Commission discussed the lack of news on the pending litigation.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:30 pm

MEETING NOTICE
Belmont Conservation Commission
November 1, 2011 Agenda
Town Hall, Room 2
7:00 pm

AGENDA

- 7:00 Call to Order
- 7:10 Minutes of October 4, 2011
- 7:15 Snow Storage at Rock Meadow discussion
- 7:30 56 Fletcher Road Notice of Intent filing (Continued Public Hearing)
- 7:45 Minor Modification to 34 Agassiz Avenue (106-105) includes land at 74, 68 and
64 Agassiz Avenue (filed by Paul Finger Associates)
- 7:45 74 Agassiz Avenue Request for Determination of Applicability
- 8:00 Rock Meadow Discussion (Garden and Mowing update)
October 22, 2011 Community Service Work Day results
Belmont Serves Work Day October 10 , 2011 results
- 8:15 UPLANDS (DEP 106-0072) update and discussion
- 8:30 Elections
- 8:30 Adjourn