

Belmont Conservation Commission Meeting December 6, 2005
7:10 PM

Chenery Middle School
APPROVED

Attendance: Commissioners Bishop, Curro, Davis, Velie, Weil
Associates McVay, Foster

Minutes of October 11, 2005 re-approved as corrected. Minutes of November 8, 2005 approved as amended.

243 Marsh Street: with new delineation it appears that the project is not in the buffer but an Order of Conditions will be issued anyway plus the signing of ANORAD as requested by Glenn Clancy

Hearings: opened at 7:37 PM and at 7:40 PM continued

Belmont Country Club 181 Winter Street opened and continued until January 2006 at the request of the proponent.

30 Howells Road hearing opened and continued until January 2006 at the request of the proponent.

Rock Meadow Budget Document:

Brief cover letter by Glenn Clancy accompanying budget request document was submitted November 23, 2005. Glenn discussed item with Barbara Hagg as to whether or not this fund should be operational or capital. OCD is asked to issue level services budget and a cut budget that would cut \$57,000. This cut would include professional services of \$30,000 that include the \$1500 mowing and the MACC dues. Under level service budget Barbara Hagg recommended adding a new line item for Rock Meadow with increase of \$10,800 plus the usual line item for mowing. As an operational item there wouldn't be a full capital budget hearing. McLean Land Management committee was approached about sharing mowing but their approach to controlling the brush differs from the needs at Rock Meadow for maintaining habitat while controlling invasives. Private donations were given in good faith for a one-time management effort and can not be expected to continue. Federal money is available for meadow maintenance according to Roger Wrubel. A budget allocation is still needed. Glenn recommends contacting Selectmen and Warrant Committee members to explain need and see support. (An operations budget item is for maintenance; a capital budget item is considered a one time expense.)

Transfer Station Update: Joe Curro reports that a comprehensive site assessment is being done with quarterly sampling of ground water and surface water. This is expected to be completed

this winter. The development of a CAAA (Corrective Alternatives Action Assessment) is expected. This will be submitted to DEP and then there is a design phase to cap the site which may cost as much as \$3.2 million. DEP inspected the site, inquired about site, history, and plans. Town reported site capped in early 80s with clay from the Alewife project and monthly reports of material placement under DEQE. However there is no final sign-off letter approving closing the site. The files show neighbors complained about dust. Reports claimed enough clay should have sealed site. There is some confusion as to whether one or two areas were capped. Current activities: concrete recycling, leaf mulching as permitted by DEP. Catch basin tailings, formerly dumped here in sealed pit, now are taken off site after being dumped at the Town Yard. Currently there is no place in town to stockpile materials for road construction.

29 Larch Circle: Owner needed to replace some of his foundation on the front of the house. This project brought up the issue of how the CC and Glenn should handle small projects. If Glenn emails Commissioners about such a small project then CC must comment in a timely manner. Glenn will have inspectors flag anything occurring in the buffer zone and if it involves excavation, he will contact CC.

37 Larch Circle: Huge willow tree came down onto the headwall structure, access road from Brighton Street to Little Pond. Matt Thurlo from DCR worries that heavy equipment cannot get on the headwall structure. They are studying the situation with an engineer.

New Business:

Order Of Conditions: taken from minutes from hearing plus additional references to plan, narrative, submitted documents. Commissioners could have a copy of the regular Order of Conditions plus the additional page of special conditions. Glenn will send a copy of Standard Conditions, and Miriam will issue the proposed list of conditions in Word so we can use them at the next hearings. C Bishop requested Commissioners be given a copy of the Order of Conditions so projects can be monitored in general.

Rock Meadow Volunteers: Nancy Davis will write note to thank Debbie Hartman and Matthew Keithley for their work.

Town Atlas updates with new delineations: Data base layers being built for GIS. Follow up on planting plans in Orders of Conditions need to be studied. Good project for when assistant is hired. CC needs to contact Zoning board re. FEMA and Uplands project. Draft study of FEMA study might be available on FEMA website.

Muskrat Marsh Team: Conservation Commission received a letter requesting support. More information needed before Commission can support. It was noted there were no signers to the letter although list of those copied was passed around.

Open Space Plan: GClancy and JWheeler will report to Tom Younger that they do not have time to work on Open Space plan. Current plan expires January 2006. Volunteers are needed to work on the plan to maintain eligibility for state grants.

Belmont Country Club Pond project site visit: coordinate with Kelly Cardoza perhaps in January.

Wetlands ByLaw:

A request made to Selectmen's office for list of the subcommittee meetings and minutes and with the advice of counsel the name of the person making the request was released: Associate Commissioner Ruth Foster.

Subcommittee met with Kate Connolly, wetlands attorney for Kopelman-Page on December. Glenn would like to have a Wetlands Bylaw page on the Town website with the bylaw, meeting notices, and minutes. The Subcommittee heartily agreed with the understanding that the draft may be changed slightly as work progresses. Glenn recommends a presentation to the Board Selectmen with purpose, goals, and schedule of public process without covering the technical issues that would be more appropriate for the public meetings.

Meeting adjourned 9:25 PM

Next meeting January 10, 2006 7:00 PM Chenery Middle School Faculty Lunchroom

Submitted by C. Bishop Amended February 8, 2006