

APPROVED

MINUTES Belmont Conservation Commission Meeting

Minutes of June 29, 2010, 2010 at Room 2 Town Hall at 7:00 P.M.

Attendance: Chair: Miriam Weil, Vice-Chair: Martha Moore; Members: Margaret Velie, James Roth; Tino Lichauco; David Webster; Jeffrey North; Associate: Barbara Gardner.

1. Mr. Paul Finger -
2. Ms. Susan Dansayer - The Belmont Patch
3. Neal Johnson, Johnson Excavating
4. Johanna Harris, Owner 665 Concord Ave
5. Elisabeth Rothman, 575 Concord Ave
6. Joe Finn, Bluebird expert

Review of Minutes of June 1, 2010

James Roth moved that the Commission approve the minutes, as submitted, of the June 1, 2010 meeting of the Belmont Conservation Commission. David Webster seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous (6).¹

Request for Certificate of Compliance for 34 Agassiz Avenue, DEP File Number 106-0099

Mr. Paul Finger of Paul Finger Associates is requesting a certificate of compliance for each of two properties, DEP file numbers 106-0099 and 106-0071. Mr. Finger described upgraded storm drainage, including the additional catch basin that the Commission had requested previously. Miriam Weil read Mary Trudeau's letter of June 15th, 2010 to the Belmont Conservation Commission, which includes photos, indicating the properties are in compliance. David Webster moved that the Commission approve the two Certificates of Compliance. James Roth seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous (6).

Community Preservation Act, Grant Searching and Revising the Open Space Plan

Martha Moore explained the drive to put forward a referendum on the November 2nd ballot that would impose a surcharge on property taxes of 1%. She explained the funding processes, state matching grants, etc. for open space, historic preservation, affordable housing and recreation projects for the community. To get a referendum would require collection of about 1,000 signatures by August 11. Martha Moore handed literature and will mail signature collection forms to members of the Commission.

Notice of Intent for 665 Concord Avenue – sewer connection

Neal Johnson of Johnson Excavating and Johanna Harris, the owner 665 Concord Avenue, were present to discuss her home at 665 Concord Avenue and her request to connect to the private sewer main operated by Mr. Johnson. The direction and orientation of the sewer connection from the house to the street was discussed. Mr. Johnson indicated that no vegetation will be disturbed, and the manner of excavation (by hand) is not expected to be disruptive. Yet the Commission expressed concern that digging would occur within 25 feet of the resource area, and suggested that the owner request a continuation to the August meeting, when the owner shall provide additional information about

¹ Jeffrey North, recently appointed to the Conservation Commission, could not vote as he had not yet been sworn in to the office by the Town Clerk.

topography, elevation evidence, more description of water flow (presumably away from the 25-foot buffer zone), wildlife habitat, as well as information on the public health benefit of abandoning the septic system. The owner needs to provide written arguments for the Commission to consider overriding the Belmont Conservation Commission Wetlands Setback Policy. David Webster moved that the Commission grant a request for continuation. James Roth seconded, and the vote was unanimous (6).

Discussion of Joe Finn's request to assist the Commission in mowing activities at Rock Meadow

Mr. Finn described the spread and growth of cow vetch (<http://www.ct-botanical-society.org/galleries/viciacrac.html>), and he requested permission to mow the North section of the West meadow and be allowed to determine the timing of the mowing. Mr. Finn will, with coordination from Mary Trudeau, arrange a day with Audubon and get the brush cutter equipment to Mill Street. Margaret Velie moved to give Mr. Finn permission to mow the north section of the west meadow as soon as possible. The motion was seconded, and the vote was unanimous (6)

UPLANDS (DEP 106-0072) update

The Commission went into executive session at 9:06 to discuss potential litigation on the Order of Conditions issued for the Residences at Acorn Park project.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM

JUNE 29, 2010 CONSERVATION

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Affiliation</u> |
|-------------------|---|
| Jeff North | Con Con |
| Paul Finger | Paul Finger Assets |
| F.A. Lichavos | |
| Miriam Weil | Con Con |
| Peg Velic | Con Con |
| James R. Roth | Con Con |
| Barbara Gardner | " " |
| David Webster | " " |
| Susan Danseyer | Belmont Patch |
| Maureen Moore | Commission |
| Neal Johnson | Johnson Excavating |
| Johanna A. Harris | Owner, 665 Concord |
| Elizabeth Raitman | 675 Concord Ave |
| Joe Finn | 922 Mass. Ave #53 ^{Cambridge} MA 02139 |