

BELMONT CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

June 4, 2002

Members Present: M. Flamang, K. Baskin, M. King, J. Curro, L. Allen.
Associate Members Present: J. Smith, M. Velie, N. Davis.

Additional Attendees: See attendance sheet

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Old Business

G. Clancy distributed copies of a prehearing report from DEP. L. Allen will serve as the Commission's witness if necessary.

There will be a Rock Meadow Use and Management subcommittee meeting in Town Hall, Conference Room 4, at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, June 11, 2002.

G. Clancy reported that the DEP has received no new information from the Armenian Church. The hearing officer suggested that the Armenian Church reach an agreement with the Commission. G. Clancy submitted the Commission's documentation to the hearing officer on behalf of the Commission. K. Baskin pointed out that she had observed that the drainage of water on the site was causing flooding into the Armenian Church basement.

L. Allen noted that many water chestnuts had been pulled from Clay Pit Pond and Little Pond by Roger Frymire.

K. Baskin noted that the Uplands proposal adopted by Town Meeting provides that, for each cubic yard of fill put in, the builder will remove 1.5 cubic yards from the flood plain. She thinks that the Commission may be able to require that the flood plain study being done by ENSR (and which won't be complete until three years from now) ultimately provides for at least one to one flood storage compensation in the project as built. M. King suggested that the Town should hire technical assistance for the Commission in assessing the Uplands proposal. L. Allen agreed that the Commission should request that.

New Business

L. Allen announced that he is moving out of the Town of Belmont and is therefore resigning from the Commission, effective as of July 1, 2002. M. Flamang's term is also expiring. There was some discussion of whether to appoint an interim chairman. It was decided that, for the meeting of July 9, 2002, M. Flamang will act as chairman. He suggested that for the next year the Commission appoint a vice chair as well as a chairman. He will consider acting as chairman under those circumstances. L. Allen volunteered to write a letter requesting that G. Clancy continue to be paid overtime to attend the Commission's meetings, because apparently that line item has been cut from this year's budget. He will also suggest that the Commission get assistance from an engineer or lawyer to assist with addressing the Uplands issues.

Public Hearing - Notice of Intent - Repaving at Clifton Street and Leonard Street

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G. Clancy appeared on behalf of the Town of Belmont. The Town proposes repaving Clifton Street at the intersection with Fletcher Road and Leonard Street at the intersection with Pleasant. It could be by milling and overlay or by reclamation. The worst case (reclamation) was assumed for purposes of this application. A siltation barrier or fence will be installed at the end of the stockade fence on the corner of Leonard and Pleasant because a chain link fence alone would not be sufficient protection for the brook.

Upon questioning by the Commission, G. Clancy responded that: sidewalks must be 4 feet wide for sufficient access for the handicapped; the siltation barrier will be a fabric one rather than hay bales, because it is on private property; and filtration baskets will be placed in the catch basins in the area of work. M. King suggested that they put the siltation barrier in front of the stockade fence, as well as in front of the chain link fence, because the stockade fence itself isn't sufficient to protect the brook.

The contract calls for dust control in the form of water or calcium chloride. There was some discussion of whether that would be sufficient to keep the dust out of the brook. They also plan to have a siltation barrier on Clifton Street, below Hickory Lane. G. Clancy pointed out that it is still not definite that these two streets will be worked on this year.

There were several comments from the public: One woman said that there is no sidewalk on the upper side of Pleasant Street and that makes it very dangerous. A resident fell there recently. She is concerned that someone else may get hurt. Another woman asked if there will be sidewalks on Clifton Street.

The Order of Conditions was granted, with the following conditions: A siltation fence will be required on the west side of Clifton Street (at the stone wall in front of 80 Clifton) and in front of the stockade fence at the corner of Pleasant Street and Leonard Street. The Town will also consider angling a siltation barrier into the road at the driveway at 51 Clifton.

Rock Meadow Management Plan

The Commission briefly reviewed the map of Rock Meadow. A meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 11 to consider the draft Management Plan.

The meeting was then adjourned. The next meeting will be held at the Faculty Dining Room at Chenery Middle School on Tuesday, July 9, 2002.