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**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Belmont Conservation Commission**  
**August 6, 2013 Meeting Minutes**  
**Room 2, Town Hall**  
**7:00 pm**

Attendees:

Members: James Roth, David Webster, Margaret Velie, Faustino Lichauco,

Conservation Agent: Mary Trudeau

NON BCC / OTHERS: Ann Marie Lambert, Richard Perry, Beau (Harvard Running Club)

The beginning of the meeting was delayed to obtain a quorum of members.

7:25 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Jim Roth, Chairman

**Harvard Running Club:** Beau Feeny represented the Harvard Running Club, a recreational intra-mural team based out of Harvard University. The team is proposing to host a running event in Rock Meadow on October 12, 2013. The event would be attended by approximately 80 male and 80 female runners representing 8-10 local running clubs. The event is proposed to be staged out of the Rock Meadow parking lot, with the start and finish line located in the meadow to the north of the parking area. The Commission expressed concern about toilet facilities; parking facilities and trash generated by the event. Mr. Feeny noted that the Club had organized other events and has rented portable toilets for the races. Margaret Velie thought that the Commission had used portable toilets at a work day in years past. Ms. Velie also noted that the Belmont Hill Swim and Tennis Club facility is also proximate to the race course and might be an alternative staging location. She noted that the facility has indoor plumbing and a paved parking area to service users of the property. Mr. Feeny agreed to explore this option. Mr. Webster noted that parking within the Rock Meadow lot is limited, and that there is additional parking available on Mill Street and at a small parking lot to the northeast of the Rock Meadow property. Mr. Feeny agreed to develop a parking strategy for use at the event and agreed to contact the Belmont Police Department to discuss the need for a traffic detail.

The Commission noted that without the additional information requested (parking scenario, police details and toilet plan) a formal approval of the request could not be made by the Commission. Mr. Feeny agreed to return to the Commission on September 10, 2013 with the additional information required. The Commission took an informal vote, indicating that all of the members present could support the Clubs petition for a road race if the additional information was provided.

Upon that consensus, David Webster moved, and the motion was seconded by Jim Roth, to encourage the development of the October 12, 2013 Run by the Harvard Running Club and to finalize the review and approval of the proposal at the September 10, 2013 meeting of the Commission. The motion was unanimously approved.

**265 Marsh Street (106-110) Certificate of Compliance Request:** Richard Perry requested that the Commission issue a Certificate of Compliance for the property at 265 Marsh Street.

Photographs documenting the drainage and infiltration system for portions of the roof runoff were submitted, as was an As Built plan showing the constructed dwelling, landscaping and tree planting. Mr. Perry noted that he had planted 14 trees along the limit of work line, and that he had preserved a significant Rhododendron on the site by relocation of two trees. David Webster and Mary Trudeau stated that they had inspected the site, and noted that the use of sod had stabilized the property.

David Webster moved to issue a Certificate of Compliance for the project, the motion was seconded by Margaret Velie, and unanimously approved.

#### Approval of Minutes July 16, 2013 Minutes

Margaret Velie moved to accept the minutes of the July 16, 2013 meeting as amended; David Webster seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved as amended.

#### Uplands Update (106-0072)

Ann Marie Lambert requested a copy of the June 11, 2013 letter to Rachel Freed, as signed by Jim Roth. Mary Trudeau agreed to email this to Ann Marie Lambert, noting confusion with a recent email from Ms. Lambert. David Webster and Mary Trudeau discussed follow up with DEP to inquire about the incorporation of the suggestions from the letter into permit conditions. David Webster agreed to reach out to Rachel Freed.

Ms. Lambert also recounted recent conversations with Glenn Clancy of the Community Development office. She noted that the Developer of the property has not submitted the formal Conservation Restriction language; an I/I payment required by the Zoning Board of Appeals Comprehensive Permit; and noted that the MEPA approval may need to be revisited.

#### **Beaver Brook Reservation: Emergency Certification for Dam Investigation at the Duck Pond:**

Mary Trudeau stated that the Commission had received a request for an Emergency Certification from Pare Engineering on behalf of the DCR. She noted that the request was to allow for examination and exploration of the existing dam to determine the cause of the sinkholes that have developed on the surface of the dam. She stated that the work would require low water levels; test pits, borings and cutting of vegetation. Ms. Trudeau also noted that the water level in the Duck Pond has been achieved through the opening of the emergency relief valve over the past few weeks.

The Commission discussed the request, noting that the engineering exploration would result in the submission of a Notice of Intent for the improvement of the dam.

David Webster moved to issue the emergency certification and the motion was seconded by Tino Lichauco. Discussion ensued concerning the date of issuance and the need to complete the work within the statutory 30 day window for work under the Certificate. Mary Trudeau agreed to contact Pare Engineering and to add a date to the signed Certificate. The Motion was approved unanimously, with the notation that the date for the start and completion of the work would be added by the Agent.

Rock Meadow, Gardens and Mowing updates Mary Trudeau noted that Joe Finn continues to mow the meadow and that the paths are easily accessible.

Joe Finn and Meadow work/ bird box program Mr. Finn was not present.

**Community Service Work Days:**

David Webster noted that Belmont Serves Day is on October 13, 2013 and that the Commission has been asked to lead a work party at Rock Meadow. David noted that he was unlikely to be available, and Margaret Velie noted that she was unavailable for the event, as well. Jim Roth stated that he probably would be available that day and could supervise a team of workers. The Commission noted that there were no pressing projects within the Meadow.

**Community Preservation Act projects**

2014 project preliminary proposals are due in September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Mary Trudeau and Peg Velie agreed to prepare the submission of a Land Inventory grant request and the submission of a Land Purchase Fund grant request. The Land Inventory grant will allow the Commission to hire a consultant to prepare a list of parcels of land that may be of value to the Conservation Commission. The Purchase Fund will allow the Commission to commence due diligence research on parcels of land that may be available for purchase.

Mary Trudeau noted that she will be scheduling public meetings for the Clay Pit Pond Intergenerational Walking Path project and that she anticipates bidding the water line replacement project at Rock Meadow in early September.

**Uplands Updates, Unitarian Church updates,** Mary Trudeau noted that she had met with the Contractor, David Santos, and that would begin on the site.

Ann Marie Lambert noted that Junction Brook had flooded the Coal Road.

**Adjourn**

David Webster moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 pm; Margaret Velie seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 pm.