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MEETING MINUTES
Belmont Conservation Commission
September 10, 2013 Meeting Minutes
Room 2, Town Hall
7:00 pm

APPROVED

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)

7:00 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Jim Roth, Chairman

Approval of Minutes August 6, 2013 Minutes

Jeffrey North moved to accept the minutes of the August 6, 2013 meeting as amended; David Webster seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved as amended.

Community Service Work Days:

David Webster noted that Belmont Serves Day is on October 14, 2013 and that the Commission has been asked to lead a work party at Rock Meadow. Jim Roth confirmed that he probably would be available that day and could supervise a team of workers. The Commission requested Mary Trudeau order densely graded material, as was done in 2012, to allow for filling of pot holes and depressions within the parking area.

Belmont Country Club Certificate of Compliance (106-113)

Kelly Cardoza, Avalon Consulting, represented the Belmont Country Club. The Club requested a Certificate of Compliance for the work regulated under DEP file number 106-113. This work included improvements to the Tenth Tee Snack Shack, as well as minor path and landscaping work within the Snack Shack locus. Kelly Cardoza noted that the mitigation plantings required under the Order had been planted within the 0 to 25 foot buffer zone.

Faustino Lichauco moved to issue the Certificate of Compliance, David Webster seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to approve the issuance.

Lone Tree Hill Property Updates:

Jeffrey North updated the Commission with recent mowing and work projects at the Lone Tree Hill property.

Notice of Intent filing: Habitat Audubon Sanctuary on Juniper Road, Belmont

Roger Wrubel, Liz Newlands, Peter Jensen and Stu Weinreb represented the Habitat Sanctuary. Roger Wrubel presented the Commission with an "All Persons Trail" system to replace and

expand the existing trail system within a portion of the sanctuary. The trail is a combination of earthen walkways with a stabilized surface as well as a raised boardwalk through portions of the wetlands on the property. The proposed work will alter approximately 717 square feet of Bordering Vegetated Wetland, and will provide an equal (or greater) square footage of restored wetland area.

The Commission discussed the proposed layout of the trail, noting that it did not appear to minimize wetland impacts. Peter Jensen disagreed, noting that contour alignment had been considered in the design of the trail, and that the proposal would provide the most stable route across the property. The design was noted as incorporating features to reduce soil erosion and to add stability to the trail system. Mr. Jensen also noted that the use of the "helical" supports minimized alteration to the wetlands by eliminating the need to dig a hole and dispose of spoils. Helical supports can be "twisted" or augered into the surface of the path, eliminating the need for footings and post holes.

Roger Wrubel and Liz Newlands discussed the proposed mitigation. The mitigation for the 717 square feet of wetlands alteration includes the restoration of the footprint of the historic trail being replaced, as well as restoration of wetland areas that have been damaged in the past. Restoration includes removal of any existing boards, or paths, and the replanting of these areas with native woody and herbaceous vegetation.

Mary Trudeau requested that straw wattles be available to the contractor for erosion control in rain events. Peter Jensen noted that all soil stockpiles would be covered with tarps, within jurisdictional areas.

David Webster moved to approve the work proposed contingent on the following conditions:

1. Restoration and mitigation to equal the 717 square feet of Bordering Vegetated Wetlands lost through the modified path system;
2. Stockpiles to be covered with tarps;
3. Straw wattles to be kept on site and available to contractor for use in erosion and sedimentation control;
4. Helical Supports to be used in the raised sections of the path.

The motion was seconded by Jeffrey North, and unanimously approved.

Rock Meadow Mowing Issues: Mary Trudeau discussed the contract for mowing with Bruce Scherer, noting that an invoice exceeding the contracted amount had been received by the Commission. Mary noted that she had informed Bruce Scherer that the contract regulated the cost of the mowing and that she did not have funds or authority to pay more than the agreed upon amount.

Community Preservation Act projects

2014 project preliminary proposals were due on September 6th, 2013. Mary Trudeau and Peg Velie prepared the submission of a Land Inventory 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. Margaret Velie noted that 14 projects had been submitted to the CPA.

Mary Trudeau noted that she will be scheduling public meetings for the Clay Pit Pond Intergenerational Walking Path project on September 19 and that she anticipates bidding the water line replacement project at Rock Meadow in late September.

Future Eagle Scout Projects:

Will Cheney did not appear at the Conservation Commission meeting, and Mary Trudeau noted only minimal contact with Will and that there had been no additional information submitted to the Commission. David Webster noted that the removal of the foundation within Rock Meadow would be an ambitious Eagle Scout project.

Adjourn

David Webster moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 pm; Margaret Velie seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 pm.