

FINAL: APPROVED BY COMMISSION

Belmont Conservation Commission Meeting September 9, 2008 7 PM
Town Hall Conference Room #2

Attendance: Chair Miriam Weil, Commissioners: Carolyn Bishop, Margaret Velie, David Webster, Nancy Davis, Vice Chair Martha Moore

Agent: Mary Trudeau

Associates: Priscilla Elliott, James Roth, Jeff North,

Applicants for 88 Woodfall Road

Map consultants: Andrea Golden, Lesya Struz,

Herb Heidt and Eliza McClennen from Mapworks,

For 96 Woodfall Road: Russell Waldron, Applied Ecological Sciences

Norman Kherlop, George Diarbakerly

Barbara Gardner, 7 Bayberry Lane, new resident,

Isabel Tarkantonis, Camp Dresser McKee/Incinerator Site

David Lubin: 150 Somerset Street

Minutes of August 5, 2008 approved as amended. N. Davis moved approval. D. Webster seconded, unanimous approval.

Rock Meadow Bird Box Project: Joe Finn sent letter to the CC re Blue Bird Box project. Due to his perception that the CC was concerned about his mowing in 2007, he has not mowed in 2008 and appears to have removed the bird boxes. He requests written permission from CC to leave three boxes to overwinter in the meadow. M. Trudeau will write supportive letter to encourage continuation of the program. M. Trudeau will try to find an ornithologist for advice on managing grasslands for birds.

Agent's Report:

Rock Meadow: October 25th and November 1 are set for work days on the bridge and boardwalk and dates given to the Community Service coordinator at the High School. Chip spreading and other chores can be added. Whole Foods might donate food for workers, N. Davis will contact them with letter from M, Trudeau with tax id. number.

Meadow needs mowing, M. Trudeau will contact Bruce and Chris.

USDA approved \$12-13000 payment due soon. Town has paid out about \$18,000 showing the expected shortfall in the first few years. Mowing and work on oaks in west meadow are pending. Liming was far more expensive than USDA reimbursement expected. Perhaps lime next year with local contractor outside of the contract. Possibly consider mowing twice next year to keep down the re-growth.

Beaver Brook bridge has been permitted by Waltham CC.

Kiosk: discussion of what to post in each kiosk in addition to trail map and rules, bluebird box project information.

Mapping Rock Meadow: presentation in response to RFP through Trailways Grant

MapWorks: presentation by Eliza McClennen and Herb Heidt Displayed samples with maps, guide/brochures and would plan website plus optional features including GPS. Has worked for Mass Audubon having walked and mapped all the sanctuary trails. Kiosk maps would be full color.

Proposal would include indications for meadow, forests and wetlands from GIS system or Town data.

Andrea Golden and Lesya Struz: Distributed draft map and proposal. Start with 18"x24" map for the kiosk. Color version pdf for website, black and white flyers or full color. Additional area beyond boundaries might require additional research. Can add symbols and details as needed. Lesya has done recent helicopter overflight, recommends delineation of vegetation and can GPS as needed. Basemap would be an overlay of Google, USGS, MAGIS, and available topo layer. Recommends GPS work in winter. Recommends that Belmont make data available in digital form to Waltham Land Trust as part of the Greenway.

Incinerator Site: 8:12 PM hearing opened: Isabel Tarkantonis, Camp Dresser McKee for the Town, Presented RDA for subsurface investigations. In 2004 wetlands flags placed for delineations. Revised maps submitted addressing the delineations and details requested by M.Trudeau. Added shading for work zone, described equipment used, travel routes, number of test pits, no disturb zones, details on hand auger work. Most test pits will be equivalent of one bucket load from back hoe vehicle; will analyze and replace soil. Testing for clay layer. Hand auger or shovel used in buffer zone. Shaded area of work zone is BVW of Beaver Brook/Clematis. Vehicle will work from the top of the bank reaching in to stream for samples with some clearing required for each test. Arrows on map show access paths: paved or gravel. Thirty five test pits proposed 100' to 200' apart over a two to three day period. Most pits in shaded jurisdictional area, with some in other areas to re-evaluate the subsurface. Downgradient a silt curtain will be installed in the brook. Goal is to confirm limit of ash and waste, to design future capping of site for final closure. Time frame is a couple more years. Concern is for identifying contamination in the brook (land under water). Leaf compost area C will not be tested. Tests on hill in Area A will be by hand auger or shovel to verify and measure clay layer with most testing in buffer zone. Report will be submitted to town and DEP before final design put in place. Vehicles will not be in the wetland or in the stream.

M.Trudeau requested further information added to map, showing extended area of work, marking the river boundary, plan limits work to gray area on map but if conditioned thus, then further work would be in violation. Locus on riverfront area is incorrectly indicated. (figure 4) M. Trudeau noted that name and address of Town are incorrect.

N Davis recommended indicating the vernal pools on site, on the plan.

I. Tarkantonis recommended closing the hearing contingent on Mary receiving revised plan. Surface investigations were done in 2001 under the Comprehensive Site Assessment. Once Notice of Intent is submitted, the CC should get involved in restoration/design of the area. At that point more definitive delineations of the resources must be done.

D. Webster moved issuance of a Negative Request for Determination with conditions:

No work or alteration in Area C without returning to the CC for permission

No test pitting or use of test pitting vehicle in Area A

Test pitting is restricted to the shaded area indicated on the plan

Clearing shall be restricted to the minimum area needed to allow test pit

Test pitting vehicle shall not enter the brooks or move beyond bank however the bucket of the vehicle can access this area.

A professional wetlands scientist shall be on site to oversee work

Maximum 35 test pits

Any revision to the areas depicted on the plan shall be submitted and approved by the Agent prior to any work.

Details required for proposed silt curtain/installation within the brook

Updating of riverfront on map is required.

CC does not approve the wetlands boundary or riverfront delineations depicted on the plan.

No work shall occur in a vernal pool.

Titles in document need to match maps, site, locus.

Revise figure 2 for vernal pools

Revise figure 4 for riverfront line

No overnight staging of equipment within the 100 ft buffer zone

No cleaning of vehicles inside the buffer zone.

(Groundwater wells are sited in Area C although not currently covered in this application/project.)

M. Moore seconded. Unanimous approval. Hearing closed at 9:14 PM

88 Woodfall Road: hearing continued at 9:15 PM Russ Waldron, AES

Landscaping completed on rear of property with viburnums,, a red maple and 13 sweet pepper bush. Subsurface drains shown on map to 5 ft deep by 6 ft wide leaching basin in front yard. Test Pit 2 in rear hit groundwater and bad soils. Pervious stone patio revised to impervious stone pavers with weep drains. Walks proposed in eco-stone pavers interlocking and set in aggregate for drainage. Back of house uses old foundation with only excavation in the front and on the side. Currently an increase of 1000 square feet of impervious surface.

Discussion resulted in Conditions to include:

Pervious pavers on lower back patio to offset previous increase in impervious surface.

Straw bales at work limit

Stipulation that as house is demolished (not chipped), debris must be put in dumpsters and removed from site.

D. Webster moved issuance of an Order of Conditions with the above conditions. P. Velie seconded. Unanimous approval. Hearing closed at 9:55 PM

150 Somerset Street: David Lubin: Continuation of discussion of previously permitted project to treat private pond for invasive aquatic vegetation. Work on the pond not done this summer. Owner objecting to the conditions attached to the Determination of Applicability. A Determination runs for three years. Owner willing to have an amendment and an extension of the Determination with permission to treat for three years until September 4, 2011 with an annual report on treatments, materials used, results of treatment and limited to no more than three treatments per year. D. Webster moved that the Determination of Applicability be extended until September 4, 2011 with conditions listed above amended to remove the requirement for filing of a Notice of Intent. 5 aye, 1 abstention. A treatment may be done this year and a new permit will be issued.

71 Oliver Road: Site visit: crushed stone installed around the walkway, evidence of cement having been washed out in back yard with some show of sediment determined to be minor. Vegetation established. N. Davis moved issuance of a Certificate of Compliance. M. Moore seconded. Unanimous approval.

240 Somerset Street: Concerns expressed by attendees re. contaminated fill near wetlands on Somerset Street/Muzzioli property. Permit had been issued for clean fill, not rubble. Both lots have sold. Siltation materials along the road from Neil Johnson sewer project need removal.

Discussion on cartographers: N. Davis moved to accept the proposal of MapWorks for the Rock Meadow mapping. D. Webster seconded. Discussion on process for determining the details to be included. M. Trudeau will be the contact person with decisions on trails and map details made by the Commission.

Uplands: D. Webster composed response letter incorporating Jacobs and Velie's comments. Documents from Tetra Tech Rizzo received in return. Professional advice may be needed to influence DEP on current plan and then after DEP's decision released, advice on response/appeal. Accountant has taken filing fees from revolving fund that could have been used for legal advice. This needs to be addressed. CC could approach the Warrant Committee for funds. CC will need independent wetlands consultant on site for oversight since DEP doesn't supervise projects.

D. Webster moved adjournment at 11:00 PM Several seconds. Unanimous approval.

Next meeting Tuesday October 7, 2008 at 7 PM

Submitted by C. Bishop

