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MEETING MINUTES
Belmont Conservation Commission
January 7 2014 Meeting Minutes
Room 2, Town Hall
7:00 pm

Attendees:

Members: James Roth, David Webster, Margaret Velie, Faustino Lichauco, Miriam Weil, Jeffrey North, Charles Chiang
Conservation Agent: Not Present

NON BCC / OTHERS: Roger Coulton (Sustainable Belmont); Anne Marie Lambert

7:05 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Jim Roth, Chairman

Approval of Minutes December 3, 2013 Minutes

David Webster moved to accept the minutes of the December 3, 2013 meeting as amended; Margaret Velie seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Members introduced themselves to new member Charles Chiang and welcomed him to the Commission. Mr. Chiang gave a brief description of himself.

Elections:

The Commission discussed the election of officers and conducted an election. Jim Roth was unanimously re elected as Chairman and David Webster was unanimously re elected as Vice Chairman.

Rock Meadow, Gardens, Eagle Scout Update:

As Mary Trudeau was not present, the Commission tabled these discussions until the February meeting of the Commission.

Lone Tree Hill Updates:

Jeffrey North discussed a January 4, 2014 meeting of the Land Management Committee. Jeff noted that he will be mentoring an Eagle Scout with a Bat Box project. Jeff also noted that trails are being cut surreptitiously by unknown people. The Committee continues to close these trails as they are discovered. The Committee is also considering tree trimming and pruning in Pine Allee. The Committee will be working on a plan for

successional planning and this restoration and maintenance of the existing trees is an important component of the scheme.

Underwood Pool Meeting on January 27, 2014

The Underwood Pool has received funds for the design of a new pool complex. The Commission is invited to attend the January 27, 2014 meeting to discuss the project.

Stormwater Bylaw Review

The Commission discussed the text of the storm water bylaw approved by Town Meeting and reviewed the draft regulations being developed for the bylaw. David Webster prepared comments on the draft regulations, and asked the Commission to discuss his suggestions. The Commission was concerned that the exemption in section 34.6.2 apply only to activities or standards within the jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act and does not operate to relieve the applicant from requirements in this Bylaw.

David Webster moved that the Commission submit a comment on the regulation clarifying the exemption to 34.6.2 (d) and that Faustino Lichauco draft this comment in compliance with the comments made at this meeting. The motion was seconded by Jeff North, and unanimously approved.

State Grant 604(b) Grant Application:

David Webster noted that he and Jeff North attended a December 5, 2013 workshop relating to grants applications. He mentioned that the next meeting of this committee was scheduled for January 29, 2014.

The Commission discussed the design for 2 "green" infrastructure projects. The Committee has a spread sheet detailing sites of interest to the Stormwater Committee, and Sustainable Belmont has asked the Conservation Commission for assistance in reviewing these sites. Ann Marie Lambert agreed to attend the February meeting of the Conservation Commission with information detailing a subset of 11 prospective sites.

Community Preservation Act projects

Peg Velie noted that the Town Counsel reviewed the applicability of the Commission's submission of a Land Inventory grant request for the 2014 Grant program. 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. Town counsel concluded the project is better funded administratively by the CPA Committee.

David Webster moved to withdraw the CPA Grant Request for an Open Space Survey from consideration under the CPA funds, and endorse the use of CPA Administrative Funds to fund the Survey. The motion was seconded by Miriam Weil, and unanimously approved by the Commission.

The Commission requested that Mary Trudeau check on the status of the rain garden proposed at the Belmont Manor site.

Adjourn

David Webster moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 pm; Margaret Velie seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 pm.