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MEETING MINUTES
Belmont Conservation Commission
February 4, 2014 Meeting Minutes
Room 2, Town Hall
7:00 pm

Attendees:

Members: David Webster (Acting Chair) Margaret Velie, Faustino Lichauco, Miriam Weil,
Jeffrey North, Charles Chiang
Conservation Agent: Mary Trudeau

NON BCC / OTHERS: Anne Marie Lambert; Fred Paulsen

7:05 **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by David Webster, acting as Chairman.

Approval of Minutes January 7, 2014 Minutes

Faustino Lichauco moved to accept the minutes of the January 7, 2014 meeting as amended; Miriam Weil seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Rock Meadow, Gardens, Eagle Scout Update:

Mary Trudeau presented the Commission with a brief summary of expenditures and revenues associated with the running of the Community Victory Gardens at Rock Meadow. Ms Trudeau noted that the Commission had charged \$50.00 dollars per plot as rental last summer, and that the actual cost to run the gardens was approximately \$65.00 dollars per garden. She noted that high water usage during an exceptionally dry August was expensive, and that the Garden Account had funded parking lot improvements; mowing of the paths within the gardens and Rock Meadow; the cost of a dumpster to haul waste from the garden area. In response to comments from residents, the Gardens had also funded the replacement of several of the most decrepit garden fences, creating a more aesthetic and safer garden. The Commission discussed the need for the gardens to be financially independent as well as the need to generate enough revenue to properly care for the paths, parking areas and contribute to the funding of mowing Rock Meadow.

Jeff North moved that the Commission vote rent each garden plot for \$65.00 dollars during the summer of 2014. The motion was seconded by Faustino Lichauco, and passed unanimously. David Webster requested that Mary Trudeau convey a message to the garden community noting that the Commission is considered raising the fee to \$75.00 dollars and that this amount may be the required rental in the future.

Lone Tree Hill Updates:

Jeffrey North discussed the Bat Box project. He noted that six (6) bat boxes were installed at Lone Tree Hill on Martin Luther King Day.

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 February 10, 2014 meeting of the Selectmen to discuss the project.

Stormwater Bylaw Review

The Commission discussed the storm water bylaw approved by Town Meeting and continued discussion of the comments on draft regulations being developed for the bylaw. The discussion noted that David Webster prepared comments on the draft regulations, and that these comments have been submitted to Glen Clancy. The Commission also commented to Glen noting concern 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.

State Grant 604(b) Grant Application:

Anne Marie Lambert and Fred Paulsen presented a short presentation on potential sites to be investigated for potential grant applications under the State 604(b) application process.

The Commission discussed the potential locations for "green" infrastructure projects. The Committee has a spread sheet detailing sites of interest to the Stormwater Committee, and Sustainable Belmont asked the Conservation Commission for assistance in reviewing these sites. The Commission commented on several sites, including the High School and Library parking lots as having potential.

Community Preservation Act projects

The Commission noted that at its January meeting, the CPA committee approved the use of administrative funds for the Open Space Survey proposed by the Conservation Commission. The CPA committee also expressed an interest incorporating a Community Housing component in the survey, as well.

Adjourn

Jeff North moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm; Margaret Velie seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.