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MEETING MINUTES
Belmont Conservation Commission
October 6, 2015 Meeting Minutes
Room 2 Town Hall
7:00 pm

Attendees:

Members: James Roth (Chairman; Miriam Weil; Margaret Velie, Charles Chiang, Jeff North

Conservation Agent: Mary Trudeau

Others:

Christopher Morris
Julie Heller
Gerald Boyle, Facilities Department Town of Belmont
Peter Struzziero, Library Director

7:05 Review of Minutes of September 15, 2015 meeting

The Commission reviewed the minutes of the September 15, 2015 meeting.

Margaret Velie moved to accept the minutes of the September 15, 2015 meeting, Miriam Weil seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous to approve the minutes as written.

- 7:15** Gerald Boyle and Peter Struzziero presented the Conservation Commission with a plan showing six (6) potential locations for a shed to be set upon the Library property off of Concord Avenue. The shed is needed to accommodate the seasonal storage of gasoline powered equipment such as snowblowers, lawn mowers, weed wackers, and jugs of gasoline. The shed will be set upon concrete blocks and will not require footings or a foundation.

The Commission discussed each of the potential locations, with a consensus that the preference of the board is to locate the proposed shed in an area that required little disturbance and maximized the setback to the Wellington Brook. Peter noted that considerations needed to include the shortage of parking spaces currently available at the Library; the need to protect the Memorial Garden located at the western edge of the property; snow plowing patterns and maintaining a 25 foot setback between the shed and the Library building.

Gerald Boyle noted that he believed the shed would require site plan review by the Belmont Planning Board. Mary Trudeau agreed to prepare a letter describing the restrictions of the Wetlands Protection Act.

7:50 Enforcement Order issued for 275 Somerset Street Update:

There were no updates or information submitted to the Commission for consideration.

7:55 Lone Tree Hill Updates: Jeff North reported that the Land Management Committee will be meeting on October 7, 2015 to discuss the restoration plan for the Pine Allee. Jeff noted that there are potentially vernal pools and wetlands that may require a filing with the Conservation Commission, probably during the winter of 2016.

8:00 Sheep Grazing at Rock Meadow: Joan Teebagy summarized her summer of 2015 grazing by noting that she grazed six (6) sheep for most of the summer at Rock Meadow without a significant dog conflict. She reported that the drought conditions during the summer limited the food supply in Rock Meadow, and that the sheep had been moved to Habitat for the last few weeks of the summer. Joan complimented the Belmont Board of Health, noting that they had worked with her to facilitate the pilot program, and that John Magurnis had been particularly supportive of her project. Joan noted that she and Mary Trudeau were scheduled to meet with a representative of the NRCS program next week to discuss grazing at Rock Meadow.

8:30 Appointments to the Conservation Commission: Mary Trudeau reported that the Belmont Board of Selectmen have not finalized the new appointments to the Conservation Commission, and that David Webster remains the member of record until the appointments are made.

8:45 Mowing at Rock Meadow Discussion: The Commission discussed mowing at Rock Meadow, including the need to insure that this task is given a line item in the upcoming Community Development budget. The Commission requested that Mary Trudeau discuss the inclusion of mowing at Rock Meadow in the Community Development budget with Glenn Glancy.

8:50 Upcoming Running Events at Rock Meadow: Mary Trudeau noted that both the Harvard Running Club and the Belmont Hill School had used Rock Meadow for XCcountry running races on September 26, 2015. Both groups agreed that the course was in excellent condition and that while not optimal, the sharing of the meadow worked out well.

Mary noted that the Belmont Hill School has its second home meet at Rock Meadow on October 24, 2015. This will end the formal use of the meadow for the 2015 running season.

9:00 Community Preservation Act projects:

The Commission discussed the two CPA projects submitted for the 2016 round of funding. The two projects were: creating a fund to allow for land purchases or restrictions, and the submission of a request to fund path improvements at Clay Pit Pond. Mary Trudeau and Margaret Velie drafted the preliminary applications for both projects,

and submitted them to the CPA Committee. Upon confirmation of eligibility, the final proposals will be prepared for a late November filing date.

Adjourn

Miriam Weil moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm; Jeff North seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

MEETING NOTICE
Belmont Conservation Commission
October 6, 2015
Room 2, Town Hall
7:00 pm
AGENDA

- 7:00 Call to Order
- 7:05 Approval of September 15, 2015 meeting minutes
- 7:10 Library Shed Discussion: Peter Struzziero and Gerry Boyle
- 7:25 Harvard Running Club: September 26 Cross Country Event recap
Belmont Hill School Race September 26 and October 24, 2015 update and recap
Race Around Belmont: Tim Irving October 4, 2015 Race around Waltham update
- 7:35 Enforcement Action: 275 Somerset Street for removal of vegetation within wetland,
Riverfront and jurisdictional buffer zones.
- 7:40 Lone Tree Hill property updates
Rock Meadow and Garden Updates
 Waterline CPA work update
Joan Teebagy Sheep Grazing Project Update
- Uplands Activity and correspondence
 Discuss Community Preservation Act projects :
 Clay Pit Pond Intergenerational Walking Path update
 Open Space Land Inventory Update and Rankings Discussion
 Discuss potential projects for 2016 round of CPA funding.
- 8:15 Adjourn