

Belmont Conservation Commission Meeting May 13, 2008 7 PM
Town Hall Conference Room #2

Attendance: Chair Miriam Weil, Commissioners: Carolyn Bishop, Tino Lichauco, Margaret Velie, David Webster, Nancy Davis, Martha Moore
Associate: Darrell King

Public:

James Roth, possible associate
Walter Scott: Greensbrook Way
Fred Russell: Greensbrook Way
Debbie Hartman: Friends of Rock Meadow

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM

Minutes of April 16, 2008 approved as amended. D.Webster moved, T.Lichauco seconded with unanimous approval.

Minutes of May 6, 2008 approved as amended. D.Webster moved, T.Lichauco seconded, Unanimous approval.

Minutes of on-site Rock Meadow Sub-Committee meeting of April 3, 2008 approved as amended C. Bishop moved approval and P.Velie seconded.

Minutes of Rock Meadow Sub-Committee meeting of April 8, 2008 approved. D. Webster moved, M. Moore seconded. Unanimous approval.

Minutes of on-site Rock Meadow Sub-Committee of April 10, 2008 approved. M. Moore seconded, D.Webster seconded. Unanimous approval.

Agent's Report:

Gardens: There have been some issues with garden plot assignments due to communication and language issues.

Paperwork started for purchase under Trails Grant of brush cutter, with trailer from a separate supplier.

Letters sent to Madelon Hope, Nancy Reilly, Joe Finn as per last meeting.

Discussion of recent Jim Ward letter re. Uplands including pros and cons of the issue of remand.

T. Lichauco will work on a possible draft response to Ward's letter citing inapplicable reference to HoosacWind case.

25 Greensbrook Way: Hearing opened at 8:10 PM F. Russell distributed plans for management of all roof runoff based on B soils assuming a 2 inch per minute perc rate. Device will be underground concrete chamber 6 feet in diameter with crushed stone. Proposal for regrading includes a two foot high fieldstone retaining wall at bottom of 2:1 slope staying 50 feet from the wetlands. D. Webster moved that an Order of Conditions be issued with standard conditions plus the additional conditions of: no vehicles, only hand tool work on the downgradient side of the retaining wall, move limits of work/erosion controls to within five feet of retaining wall, geo-textile fabric required on the 2:1 slope until vegetation is established (if 3:1 slope used, can be seeded directly), planting list to be submitted to Commission and must contain only native non-invasive plants, erosion controls to include straw bales instead of hay bales, slope must be stabilized before runoff is directed to the drywell. Before construction begins, a plan with the new limit of work line will be submitted. P. Velie seconded. Unanimous approval. Hearing closed 8:40 PM

Presentation to the Selectmen: Discussion and some amending of document to be submitted prior to attendance by David Webster and Miriam Weil at Selectmen's meeting on May 19th. Commissioners are invited to attend. M. Moore moved approval of document and N. Davis seconded. Unanimous approval.

Rock Meadow:

Information on ADA compliant trails was sent by M. Trudeau and briefly discussed. Generally required on new trail construction.

Mitzvah Walk planned for Thursday by Miriam and Debbie to plot out work for Temple workday on May 18. Equipment needed: wheelbarrows, rakes, shovels to spread chips.

Sign: Tom Grimble completed restoration of the sign. Installation proposed if possible on the McLean Farm side of the driveway. *N. Davis will contact Ellen Cushman O'Brien for permission and mark the ground for holes. *M. Trudeau will ask DPW to dig the postholes. Exact location to be determined.

Mapping: D. Hartman contacted MapsAtWork (Liza McClennen and Herb Heidt). List is needed of map attributes; number of colors: multiple colors on online version but gray-green scale on printable version, what size maps matted and laminated for kiosk: 18 in. x24 in. and 8.5 in. x 11 in. for brochure/home printing; maps to show adjacent properties and connecting trails, outline parking lot and gardens, kiosk locations, town boundaries, property boundaries, wetlands with BVW symbol and forest vegetation, meadow, bridge over Beaver Brook, McLean

Brook, Brookside Ave. entrance, scale, compass, key and bordering street names.

*D. Hartman will relay the information to MapsAtWork.

Victoria Thatcher is setting up a garden website and is writing a history of the property. *D. Hartman will send out final document for CC approval before posting. Arboretum student Curtis Adams and P. Velie's article on Citizen Forum website were suggested for reference.

Public Education: D. Hartman stated need for public ed since herbiciding will be done in July. N Davis volunteered to present about swallowwort and control.

*D. Webster moved that D. Hartman set up an informational public meeting on work at Rock Meadow with the cooperation of the CC including information on the herbiciding. N. Davis seconded. Unanimous approval.

Rock Meadow Management Plan: *N. Davis will distribute outline from Lincoln Stewardship Policy as guide.

Public Education Brochure: N. Davis moved that * P. Velie bring in the MACC brochure for us to examine in consideration of purchase for public distribution. D. Webster seconded. Unanimous approval.

By-Laws: N. Davis pointed out in original garden bylaws that plots can be passed down in families. C. Bishop pointed out the Conservation Commission statute/ bylaws haven't been amended since the 70s and suggested CC examine old bylaws. *

Agenda: D. Hartman requested that Rock Meadow meetings be reserved for that topic. C. Bishop suggested that Rock Meadow be placed first on the agenda when issues need discussion. No decisions were made.

D. Webster moved adjournment. P. Velie seconded. Unanimous approval.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 PM. * indicates action item

Submitted by C. Bishop

