

MINUTES Belmont Conservation Commission Meeting

Minutes of August 2, 2010 in Room 2 Town Hall at 7:00 P.M.

Attendance: Acting Chair: David Webster; James Roth, Jeff North, Margaret Velie.
Associate: Barbara Gardner

1. Susan Danseyar, Belmont Patch
2. Scott Morrison, EcoTec, Inc.
3. Neal Johnson, Johnson Excavating

Review of Minutes of June 29, 2010

James Roth moved that the Commission approve the minutes, as submitted, of the June 29, 2010 meeting of the Belmont Conservation Commission. Margaret Velie seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous (4).

Enforcement Actions for 89 and 99 Oliver Road, Belmont

Roger Frymier, a citizen volunteer for watershed groups, sent an email to the Commission in which he reported that two properties abutting Little Pond where recent work reportedly impacted DCR land fronting the yards along the pond. One had a new (or newly re-built) rock wall along the water, which has been filled in behind the wall with new dirt to extend the lawn area level to the pond. Another property owner has removed shoreline habitat vegetation and let it fall into the pond, then mowed all area between their fence and the pond.

David Webster moved that the Commission postpone the signing of an Enforcement Action until an eyewitness verification of the reported infractions and locations are confirmed by the agent or commissioners. James Roth seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (4).

Continued Public Hearing for Notice of Intent for 665 Concord Road project – sewer connection

At the June 29 meeting the applicant submitted a NOI to connect her home at 665 Concord Avenue to the private sewer main operated by Mr. Johnson. The Commission expressed concern that digging would occur within 25 feet of the resource area. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Morrison presented a revised site plan and construction sequence for the work in question. The revised site plan showed grading and that the temporary impacts were largely within a paved area. The applicant's expert also testified that the watershed drained away from the wetland resource area. After reviewing the plan, and testimony, David Webster moved adopt the Order of Conditions, with standard condition to apply. James Roth seconded. The vote was unanimous (4).

The applicant is encouraged to replace any disturbed impervious surfaces (asphalt walkway) with pervious surface, to the maximum extent possible. Mr. Johnson agreed to meet with Mary Trudeau.

Community Preservation Act, Grant Searching and Revising the Open Space Plan

Ms. Danseyar of the Belmont Patch reported that about 600 signatures have been collected and organizers are confident they will get enough signatures to move forward with the Community Preservation Act (CPA).

Miriam Weil and Barbara Gardner will continue pursue these items, and they will be discussed at the next meeting.

Meet Belmont on August 26, 2010 at the Chenery Middle School at 6:00 to 8:30 pm

Jeff North and Barbara Gardner will attend as the Commission representatives, and they will obtain various handouts and collateral material related to the Conservation Commission's work.

Rock Meadow News

Doug John from the Interfaith Committee has inquired about help toward Columbus Day projects for volunteers. Mary Trudeau will coordinate these efforts.

Barbara Gardner and Miriam Weil implemented an eradication initiative of poison ivy around the walkways.

Mass Development Letter

The July 30 letter from Mass Development to the Selectmen advised local planning agencies of the preliminary approval of a revenue bond on behalf of AP Cambridge Park II, LLC related to the Uplands project. The Commission discussed if this would provide an opportunity to cite the Open Space Plan or other Town plans for preserving open spaces, which Barbara Gardner and Miriam Weil will study to study for next meeting and advise on a message to the Selectmen. David Webster suggested that an appealed case might not be a candidate for a letter.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm

UPLANDS (DEP 106-0072) update

The Commission went into executive session at 8:40 to discuss ongoing litigation on the Order of Conditions issued for the Residences at Acorn Park project.

The session was adjourned at 8:51PM