BELMONT CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

September 10, 2002

Members Present: K. Baskin, J. Curro, M. Weil, R. Foster, M. King, J. Smith. Associate Members Present: N. Davis, M. Velie.

Additional Attendees: Glenn Clancy (Belmont Office of Community Development), John Murphy, Commission Consultant.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Minutes

The minutes for the meeting of July 9, 2002, were submitted for approval. Corrections were noted as follows: Roger Frymire's name was misspelled, and the reference to e. coli should be corrected to read "E. coli." The minutes for the meeting of July 9, 2002, were accepted with corrections as noted.

The minutes of the meeting of August 6, 2002, were accepted as submitted.

New Business

Because R. Foster is resigning as the Commission's representative on the McLean Land Management Committee, the Commission must appoint a new representative to fill the vacancy. M. Flamang had offered to act as the representative. The Commission therefore voted to appoint him to be the Commission's representative.

Foster brought up the topic of maintaining Rock Meadow. The brush has gotten very high. She spoke to a landscape company, Cambridge Landscaping, which has a backhoe mower and could cut it back to two inches above the ground. G. Clancy recently talked to Dante Muzzioli and thinks he may already have mowed half of the meadow.

Apparently Muzzioli didn't get paid for the work he did last year, and it is too late to pay the \$950 out of last year's budget. The Commission only has an \$800 budget this year. The Commission discussed future mowing and clearing services. The clearing of brush is more expensive than the mowing. It was suggested that the Town could ask Asplund to do some of that work as part of its work for the Town.

The Commission determined that M. Weil will obtain estimates for both mowing the meadow and clearing some of the brush that has encroached on the meadow in the past few years. She will ask for estimates from Muzzioli and from Cambridge Landscaping and a third landscaping company that is capable of doing the work.

M. King pointed out that the contractor should do the work at the direction of the Commission, and should not stop work (as they did last year when the tractor got stuck). If a third party interferes, they (the landscaper) should contact the Office of Community Development.

G. Clancy stated that a resident of Concord Avenue had asked whether a Notice of Intent would be required for expansion of his driveway. Although the work would be within the buffer zone, it is across Concord Avenue from the affected stream. The Commission discussed whether a Request for Determination would be sufficient under the circumstances. It was the consensus of the Commission

that there is no exemption from the Notice of Intent requirement under these circumstances. G. Clancy will let him know.

Old Business

N. Davis offered to arrange for Roger Wrubel to set up a workshop on invasive plants. She will notify the Environmental Club at the High School and the Victory Gardeners. It was determined that it should be advertised as a special meeting because most of the Commission members will attend.

K. Baskin noted that Barbara Passero had told her that there is a group called the Friends of Rock Meadow, but she was unwilling to give K. Baskin and the Commission any further information about said group.

G. Clancy has sent a letter to Hillside Garden Supply Co. about the materials stored at Hill Estates, but he does not think those materials have been moved out of the buffer zone yet.

The meeting was then adjourned at 8:12 p.m. The next meeting will be held at the Faculty Dining Room at Chenery Middle School on Tuesday, October 1, 2002.

Prepared by: Johanna Smith