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APPROVED

OCT 24 2 44 PM '12  
MINUTES Belmont Conservation Commission Meeting

September 11, 2012 in Room 4 Town Hall at 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

**Attendance:** Chair: Miriam Weil; David Webster, Tino Lichauco, William McCants, Margaret Velie, Jim Roth and Mary Trudeau (agent)

Erik Rhodin  
Michael Smith  
Sean McDonnell

**Thomas Clarke House – Eric Rhodin**

Erik Rhodin updated the Commission on the proposed relocation of the Thomas Clarke house, noting that the most recent discussions would involve a land swap with the Armenian Church. The land swap would require reconfiguration of the parking and driveways within the locus, and would result in a lot for the Thomas Clarke House to the east of the Church. The Commission noted that the work proposed would be located within the Riverfront Area, and that specific performance standards would need to be met. David Webster discussed the potential applicability of the redevelopment standards and the standards for new construction. Mr. Rhodin noted that he was aware of the standards and that he would continue to investigate the implications of locating the house within the Riverfront Area.

**Review of Minutes of August 7, 2012**

William McCants moved that the Commission approve the minutes of the August 7, 2012 meeting of the Belmont Conservation Commission. Faustino Lichauco seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

**Rock Meadow Gardens**

Mary Trudeau received a request from the gardeners for a small shed to store the weed wacker, lawnmower, and wheelbarrows. The Commission noted that the discussion should be continued to allow for the Brookside Road neighbors to submit a landscaping plan for the garden entranceway. Ms. Trudeau noted that Joe Finn has continued to mow the paths, and that the annual Meadow mowing by Bruce Scherer had been scheduled and should be completed soon. She also noted that the WHIP grant allowed for a lime application this year, and that a contractor had agreed to do the work conditioned in the Management Plan.

**Belmont Serves Workday on October 8, 2012**

David Webster discussed the upcoming work day, and noted that there were several projects to be done at Rock Meadow. David requested that Mary Trudeau order stone dust/and or clay gravel, to be used in patching holes in the parking area. Stone dust can also be used to repair sediment loss in the stairway to the west of the parking lot.

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David noted that Barbara Gardner had agreed to supervise a work crew, and was interested in restoring the plantings at the Mill Street entrance to the site. Mary Trudeau asked that plants be purchased at Hillside Gardens to allow for reimbursement.

William McCants stated that he would be working with a crew at Clay Pit pond.

**Chairmanship Elections:**

Miriam Weil stated that she would like to tender her resignation as chairwoman due to time commitments of her new job. David Webster noted that he was unavailable during the work week. Margaret Velie stated that the CPA committee was a priority and that she did not have an interest in the Chairmanship. Jim Roth, Tino Lichauco and William McCants all expressed a willingness to take on the chair position.

David Webster nominated Jim Roth, and the motion was seconded by William McCants. The vote was unanimous to elect Jim Roth the Chairman of the Conservation Commission.

**Stormwater Management Bylaw:**

David Webster noted that Roger Coulton is working with a committee to draft a stormwater bylaw for the Town of Belmont. Mr. Webster suggested that the Commission invite Mr. Coulton to come to a Conservation Commission meeting and discuss their program.

**September 24, 2012 Meeting with Board of Selectmen:**

Mary Trudeau confirmed that the Board of Selectmen had scheduled time to meet with the Commission at the September 24, 2012 meeting of the Selectmen. Miriam Weil noted that she had submitted a letter requesting that the Board consider allowing remote attendance at meetings. This would accommodate Jeff Norths temporary scheduling issue.

**Remote Attendance at Public Meetings**

The Commission will be meeting with the Selectmen on whether they would be willing to accept remote attendance as a means of attending public hearings or meetings. The Commission has a member who will be, at least temporarily, out of town during the week and would like to continue as a member of the Conservation Commission.

**50 Moraine St.**

Stockpiling of fill materials has occurred on a vacant lot that appears to be within Riverfront Area associated with Beaver Brook and within 100' of the associated wetlands. Mary Trudeau issued an enforcement order on July 16, 2012. She noted that she had limited contact with the landowner and that she would follow up on the site condition for the next meeting.

**CPA**

Margaret Velie discussed the progress of the CPA committee in formulating applications for review of proposed CPA projects. She noted that preliminary applications are due on

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October 20, 2012 for the first round of funding. The Commission discussed potential projects, and would like to go forward with a request for fund to inventory and evaluate open space parcels within the Town. Approximately \$1 million in CPA funding goes to Town this year. 10% must be spent on open space. 09/21/2012 15 PM '12

Mary Trudeau agreed to research the potential of a landscaping plan for Clay Pit Pond to protect and preserve passive recreational opportunities.

**Wetlands Bylaw**

Interest arose from members to revisit this issue. The Commission discussed the need to strategize and formulate an argument for the passage of a wetlands bylaw. Faustino Lichauco and Jeff North agreed to help formulate this argument.

**UPLANDS (DEP 106-0072) update**

The Commission discussed the recent developments in the Uplands filing.

**Miriam Weil moved, and the motion was seconded by David Webster to enter executive session to discuss litigation strategy. After a roll call vote, the Commission voted unanimously to go into executive session to discuss strategy related to litigation on the Uplands Project. (OADR Docket No. Wet 2008-072-R)**

The Commission came back into open meeting at approximately 10:30 and adjourned at 10:35.

Next meeting: September 11, 2012