



**Waltham Conservation Commission
March 8, 2018
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Attendees: Chairman Bill Doyle, Vice Chairman Philip Moser, Brad Baker, Mike Donovan, Gerard Dufromont, Courtney Semlow

Absent: None

Development Prospectus

- 265 Bear Hill Road

Atty. Bret Francis appeared on behalf of Prestige Auto Sport Inc., dba Eastside Motoring who is seeking a special permit for a used car lot as a portion of their business. There is no work being done that falls under the commission's jurisdiction. Mr. Moser asked for the location of the property. Atty. Francis replied that it was the old fulfillment building and that it is way up on the hill. It is not near the reservoir.

Motion made by Mr. Moser for Mr. Doyle to sign the prospectus, seconded by Mr. Dufromont. All in favor.

Motion passed.

Informal Discussion

- Antico Snow Removal

Atty. Bret Francis appeared on behalf of John Antico, dba Antico Snow Removal. They are in receipt of the Notice of Violation (issued by the Conservation Commission). Atty. Francis has been in contact with Mr. Doyle to determine a temporary solution to the problem with the storm we just had and the one that is possibly coming up. The property owner put measures in place that will collect any debris (from snow melting). Mr. Antico is willing to do the right thing and wants to run a clean operation. He is seeking to continue operations for this weekend and would like to set up a site visit with the commission. In the long-term, they will return for another meeting. Mr. Doyle spoke with Mr. Antico re: the cease and desist order. Mr. Antico asked if there was anything he could do temporarily until he gets the final plan approved. He brought in straw wattles and silt socks for the catch basins. Mr. Antico is not melting the snow from this last storm; he is stockpiling it on the property and letting it melt naturally. Mr. Doyle asked that the commission be notified once the erosion controls are in place if he intends to melt, and the commission will go out for a site visit. He will need to follow-up with a permanent plan. Mr. Doyle noted that the property may or may not be in jurisdiction but there's definitely a lot of water that's being brought on site with all of its litter that would eventually dump into the Beaver Brook. Atty. Francis and Mr. Doyle both stated that Mr. Antico acknowledged that. Mr. Dufromont asked if the snow is coming from off-site or if it's just from the complex. Atty. Francis replied that it's coming in from on-site and off-site. Mr. Doyle noted that Mr. Antico told him that the system has filtration in it and they clean out the filters regularly.

Motion made by Mr. Moser to approve the snow melting provided a site visit occurs and the property owner has demonstrated to the commission's satisfaction that the drainage system, and anywhere the runoff may go, is protected from any sediments or pollutants that may come from the snow melting procedure. Motion seconded by Mr. Donovan. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Public Meeting**Request for Determination of Applicability****Applicant:** Chapel Hill Chauncy Hall School**Property Location:** 785 Beaver Street**Project Description:** Zip Line Replacement

Al Trakimas, Sitec Environmental Engineering, represented the applicant. Gwen Pojasek and Al Umina were in attendance from the school. They want to replace the existing zip line which has been there for at least 25 years. When it was installed, it was connected from tree-to-tree and one of the trees is ready to fall down. They would like to install 4 utility poles, which would be augured into the ground. The pole installation should take no more than one day. A total of eight trees would come down. Once the trees have been removed, the proposal is to replace them with 15 new trees along the same area. Mr. Moser asked the species of trees they will be planting. Their arborist recommended downy serviceberry shagbush, eastern red cedar, gray birch, white oak and black tupelo. Mr. Donovan asked for the location of the zip line. Mr. Trakimas replied that it currently goes over the pond. The utility poles will be set back further away from the pond. He confirmed that they will be leaving the stumps of the trees that are being removed. Mr. Baker asked what will be done with the soil that is being dug up during the auguring. Mr. Trakimas replied that Mr. Umina will be removing it from the site. Mr. Baker would also like to see more than one planted of both the white oak and black tupelo. Mr. Doyle requested that the commission be notified once work is commencing.

Motion made by Mr. Moser to issue a negative Determination of Applicability on the condition that the commission is notified once work starts and finishes, seconded by Mr. Dufromont. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Public Hearing**Notice of Intent** (DEP File # not yet assigned)**Applicant:** Historic New England, Lyman Estate**Property Location:** 185 Lyman Street**Project Description:** The phased (2-3 year) removal of invasive plant species at the Lyman Estate adjacent to Lyman Ponds. Replant with native vegetation, and perform on-going vegetation management to control regrowth of invasive plant materials.

Motion made by Mr. Donovan to grant a continuance until the next meeting, seconded by Mr. Baker. All in favor.

Motion passed.**Public Meeting** (Continued from 2-22-2018)**Request for Certificate of Compliance** (DEP File # 316-0689)**Applicant:** Robert Farrington/Windsor Village at Waltham Co.**Property Location:** 976 Lexington Street

Motion made by Mr. Baker to continue until the next meeting, seconded by Mr. Donovan. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Public Hearing (Continued from 2-22-2018)**Notice of Intent** (DEP File # 316-0733)**Applicant:** 275 Wyman LLC c/o Hobbs Brook Management LLC**Property Location:** 225, 235, 303 Wyman Street**Project Description:** Demolition of two existing office buildings, construction of a new office building and parking garage, and a new stormwater management system.

Motion made by Mr. Dufromont to continue until the next meeting, seconded by Mr. Donovan. All in favor.

Motion passed.**Commission Business**

- Motion made by Mr. Donovan to approve the meeting minutes from 2-8-2018 and 2-22-2018, seconded by Mr. Dufromont. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Approved 3-22-2018

Correspondence

- **Beaver Brook Invasives Removal:** A Belmont resident would like to help financially with the removal of the phragmites in Beaver Brook. She asked if the City of Waltham would be able to contribute money toward it as well. Mr. Doyle will reach out to her.

Old Business

Mr. Doyle

- **Robert's Rules:** Mr. Doyle will send out info to the commission on Robert's Rules.

Mr. Baker

- **Tree signage:** Mr. Baker proposed putting up signs where the baby hemlocks and wisteria are located. He asked if the commission can make the signs. Julie will print and laminate signs.
- **Lexington's Management Plan:** Ann Clifford forwarded the plan to the commission. Mr. Baker feels the plan is fantastic and right on the mark. The only thing that was missing was smothering the invasives. He would like to adopt Lexington's plan and add the invasives smothering.
- Mr. Dufromont asked Mr. Baker to explain to the commission's new member, Courtney Semlow, what the commission is looking to do at the Paine Estate and why. Ms. Semlow first introduced herself. Mr. Baker and Mr. Moser then gave an overview of the maintenance being done and being proposed at the Paine Estate.

Mr. Dufromont

- No updates

Mr. Moser

- **Lazazzero Playground:** Mr. Dufromont noticed that walkway that was recently installed has deteriorated. It's caving in and everything has been washed away. He asked if the Recreation Department should be having it fixed. Mr. Moser proposed meeting with the Recreation Dept. director at the site. Mr. Doyle asked Mr. Moser and Ms. Semlow to come up with a solution and recommendations to the City for fixing it.
- **Multi-Family residential properties:** No update

Mr. Donovan

- No updates

Ms. Semlow

- Mr. Doyle asked that "Lazazzero erosion issue" be added to Ms. Semlow's old business.

Committee Reports

- **CPC:** No updates
- **Trust Fund:** No updates

Site visit reports

- **Rose Hill Way tree cutting:** Julie stated that Keolis contacted the office and they are working on a response to the commission's Notice of Violation for the recent tree cutting that occurred. Mr. Dufromont asked about the ice melt that the Waltham Land Trust noticed in a pile near the tracks. Julie replied that she asked Keolis about it and it isn't a brand that they use but noted that many items are often dumped along the tracks. They offered to clean it up within the next few weeks, but the Land Trust felt it should be removed sooner. Julie contacted CPW and they offered to clean it up next week.
- **Paine Estate sewer line:** Mr. Donovan walked the line for the new sewer replacement. He said it is extremely steep. He noted that the first manhole is approximately 125 feet from the house and more than 20 feet lower. He feels there is too much pitch in the lines. Mr. Dufromont and Mr. Moser recommended contacting John Martino in the Engineering Dept. for their installation plan.

- **61 Crescent Street:** Mr. Donovan asked Julie to contact the owner to see if work has been completed. He noted that the work that has been done looks good, but they still have their erosion controls up. If the project is finished, they need to request a Certificate of Compliance.
- **Cedarwood Playground:** Mr. Donovan noted that on Hamilton Street, the design was not done correctly. They created a driveway off of Hamilton Street. All of the water comes down, and goes in the driveway and into the playground. Some of the water jumps over the driveway and goes into the area with the stone dust. They need to put in a berm to solve the problem of water getting in there. Mr. Doyle asked Mr. Donovan for pictures. He will take some once the snow melts.
- **Prospect Street Bridge:** Mr. Donovan noticed that granite steps with stone dust have been installed without the commission's approval. Mr. Moser recommended issuing a potential violation letter with the field report attached.
- **Mt. Feake Cemetery:** Mr. Donovan noted there are several dead trees along the driveway. He asked if, as a procedure, do they come before the commission with an NOI. Mr. Doyle stated that if they cut down a tree, we expect to be notified. Mr. Baker stated that they cut down three dead maples near the river and ground out the stumps, which was upsetting. There are 55 marked dead maple trees throughout the cemetery. Mr. Doyle would like a letter sent to the Cemetery Dept. and CPW. Cutting down trees and removing stumps within the 200' buffer zone is jurisdictional for the Conservation Commission and requires notification.

New Business

- **Approval of the Conservation Commission's Special Order of Conditions Revisions:** The commission will vote on them at the next meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Moser to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Dufromont. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.