

Waltham Conservation Commission April 19, 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

Public Meeting Request for Certificate of Compliance (DEP File # 316-0706) Applicant: Chapel Hill Chauncy Hall School Property Location: 785 Beaver Street

Alexander Trakimas, SITEC Environmental, represented the Applicant. The work at Worcester Hall was completed about a year ago. All of the vegetation has re-vegetated, the infiltration systems are functioning, and the erosion controls have been kept in place until a Certificate of Compliance has been issued. Mr. Baker went out there today and saw no evidence of erosion. The trees are all budding out and the lawn looks healthy. The Norway Maples that were cut down have re-sprouted. He suggested cutting off the sprouts so the trees don't come back. Mr. Donovan went out as well and concurred with Mr. Baker.

Motion made by Mr. Dufromont to issue a Certificate of Compliance, seconded by Mr. Baker. All in favor. Motion passed.

Informal Discussion

• Proposed high school fence: Ann Clifford

Ann Clifford, Curator of Stonehurst at the Robert Treat Paine Estate, stated she sent an e-mail on April 7th to the Historical and Conservation Commissions, which she read at the meeting re: a 6 foot high, 650 foot long fence between Paine Estate and the high school, that the School Committee is proposing. Many concerned residents expressed their disapproval of the fence to the Conservation Commission members. Mr. Doyle will compose a letter, referencing Ms. Clifford's letter, which will be sent to the School Committee, copying the Mayor's office, and possibly City Council, to get answers to a lot of open questions.

Motion made by Mr. Dufromont to take a five-minute recess, seconded by Mr. Baker. All in favor. Motion passed.

Motion made by Ms. Semlow to resume Commission business, seconded by Mr. Moser. All in favor. Motion passed.

Public Meeting (Continued from 4-5-2018) Request for Certificate of Compliance (DEP File # 316-0689) Applicant: Robert Farrington/Windsor Village at Waltham Co. Property Location: 976 Lexington Street

Mr. Baker was at the property today and noted there is some serious erosion near where they put in the gravel. They did put in new concrete curbing in the back, but the height is low, not 6 inches high as recommended by the Commission.

Motion made by Mr. Moser to issue a formal violation identifying the items that are not in compliance with the Order of Conditions. Motion seconded by Mr. Dufromont. All in favor. **Motion passed**.

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

Commission Business

- Approval of meeting minutes from 3-22-2018 and 4-5-2018: Minutes were not ready for review.
- Election of Officers: Mr. Dufromont made a nomination to keep Mr. Doyle as Chair and Mr. Moser as Vice Chair. Mr. Doyle respectfully declined the nomination. Mr. Dufromont nominated Mr. Moser as Chair and Mr. Moser also declined the nomination. Motion made by Mr. Moser to continue the elections until the next meeting, seconded by Mr. Dufromont. All in favor. Motion passed.
- Approval of the Conservation Commission's Special Order of Conditions Revisions: Mr. Moser noted that Ms. Semlow made some suggestions and he would like to attend the seminar on writing effective Order of Conditions offered by the MACC next month. Mr. Doyle stated that the Commission can start using the revised conditions now. Motion made by Mr. Dufromont to accept the Conservation Commission's standard Order of Conditions as they are now written, seconded by Mr. Donovan. All in favor. **Motion passed**. Mr. Donovan recommended adding a footer with a revision date and page numbers.

Correspondence

- **Bishops Forest**: A response to the Commission's letter has been received from Bishops Forest. They have not addressed all of the potential violations and they will be asked to attend the next ConCom meeting.
- Briar Glen Village: Their response hasn't addressed all of the Commission's concerns. They will be asked to attend the next ConCom meeting.
- **Chesterbrook Woods**: Two residents of the city e-mailed the Commission asking for our stance on the use of the Chesterbrook Woods as the site for the new high school. The Commission will respond saying that if it will be built in a jurisdictional area, the Commission will implement the Wetlands Protection Act.
- **225 Wyman Street**: The Applicant submitted a request for a few revisions to the Order of Conditions which were approved by the Commission at the previous meeting. The Commission approved the proposed changes.
- **Eversource**: A copy of their 5-year Vegetation Management Plan was submitted to the Commission. ConCom will respond by requesting that they please treat all wetlands in the riverfront as sensitive areas.

Old Business

Mr. Doyle

• No updates

Mr. Baker

• No updates

Mr. Dufromont

• Trail and Stonehurst interpretive brochure: Mr. Dufromont, Mr. Doyle, the Land Trust and Ms. Clifford met regarding the trails and Stonehurst brochures and signage. State regulations will be forwarded to the mayor from the Land Trust.

Mr. Moser

• No updates

Mr. Donovan

- **Paine Estate Sewer Project**: A letter was sent to the mayor re: the sewer line. Mr. Donovan sent a follow-up e-mail yesterday but hasn't heard back. Mr. Donovan will send another e-mail tomorrow.
- **746 South Street**: Mr. Donovan stated that the property owner needs to re-establish a good erosion control at the perimeter of their property and he suggested a snow fence be installed along the river side of the property during construction. Mr. Doyle will be stopping by the site tomorrow.

Ms. Semlow

• No updates

Committee Reports

• **Trust Fund**: Mr. Dufromont will meet with City Treasurer, Tom Magno, to request to have some of the money in the Trust Fund released.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.