



**Waltham Conservation Commission**  
**June 22, 2014**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:** Robin Brodsky, Bill Doyle, Gerard Dufromont, Maureen Fowler, Daniel Keleher

**Meeting called to order at 7:10pm**

**Public hearing**

**Notice of Intent DEP#: 316-0680 (under review)**

**Applicant:** City of Waltham, Recreation Department

**Project Location:** 25 Intervale Rd, Cedarwood Playground

**Project Type:** Playground updates

Carolyn Cooney represented the Waltham Recreation Department. They are proposing improvement to the playground. Right now there is limited and outdated equipment there. The improvements consist of construction of a new playground area with porous rubber safety surfacing, a new multi-use court for basketball, street hockey and community gatherings, a paved walking path around the perimeter of the lawn area with exercise stations, a community gardening area, and replacing of existing 6' ht chain link fence.

Mr. Doyle stated that Ms. Cooney should just speak about the impacts to the resource area.

Ms. Cooney went over the plans and showed the Commission where the wetlands were located. There is also an unpaved footpath that does not impact the wetlands or streams. There are dead trees that have fallen across the pathway. They propose to cut the fallen trees where they intersect the path and provide a 6' wide area of passage. The portion of the dead wood will be relocated adjacent to the path.

Mr. Dufromont questioned if there will be a spray park at the playground. Ms. Cooney stated no, the only water that will be coming off is rain water.

Ms. Cooney stated there is a problem with poison ivy growing through the fence and into the playground. They would like to spray within the buffer zone and not within the wetland. They would like to use a round up spray which is approved by DEP. Mr. Doyle questioned if keeping the poison ivy there would make it be deterrent. Ms. Cooney stated she doesn't think.

Ms. Fowler asked Ms. Cooney to go over the grading and drainage plan and give some details about infiltration basins and how they are going to get to them. Mr. Doyle questioned if there are other parks with infiltration underground. Ms. Cooney stated yes. Mr. Doyle said it seems like it is an infrastructure that will never be maintained. He is wondering if there is a more sustainable approach. Ms. Cooney stated they looked into other systems but there isn't enough room in the park. They have an O and M plan and an agreement with CPW that they are going to maintain it. Ms. Fowler questioned if they were already approved by the Engineering Department. Ms. Cooney stated yes. Mr. Doyle went over plans with Ms. Cooney proposing a natural system. Ms. Cooney stated that she would be willing to meet with Mr. Doyle.

Ms. Brodsky stated she has an issue with removing the poison ivy on the fence. She thinks its fine on the park side but not needed on the other side of the fence. Ms. Cooney stated that it will be there only opportunity to spray because once the permit is closed they can't have it sprayed.

Mr. Keleher stated that the more they spray the poison ivy now, the less there will be.

Ms. Brodsky questioned why the Recreation Department would hold the maintenance logs for the system cleaning. Ms. Cooney stated she will change that to CPW.

Mr. Dufromont questioned when the project will start. It will probably start in the spring of 2015. It will be out to bid this year.

The Commission would like to the O & M plan to be more specific. Ms. Cooney is willing to work on it to make it what

the Commission would like.

There were no questions from the public. The project is still under review with DEP.

Site visit scheduled for 6/25/14 at 8:45am.

Ms. Cooney requested a continuance.

Motion made by Ms. Fowler to continue the public hearing until the next meeting, seconded by Mr. Keleher. **Motion passed.**

### **Public Meeting**

#### **Emergency Certification request**

**Applicant:** Mike Chiasson

**Project Location:** Waverly Oaks Road

The Culvert was built in 1886; it used to be open on both sides. There was an open channel on the Duffy property and the other side to UMass Amherst. In the past years the water has flooded Waverly Oaks Road. That happened this past April. They rented a pump to help the water move quicker and keep the roadway open. The road was closed for a week. It's a city drainage system that runs through Duffy property. They have had the job out to bid and had to request the money and now everything is in place to go.

Mr. Doyle stated that they should get into the pipe as much as they can to find the blockage and clean it out and then fix the pipe. Mr. Chiasson stated that after they had the site visit there was a 20-30 minute downpour and the rest of the sidewalk collapsed into the hole. They fear they will get more of that.

Mr. Dufromont stated he would like to see it get fixed. It's a danger to the road.

Ms. Brodsky stated that her concern is that the emergency repair is going to get down and nothing else will be done. They need something in place to fix the problem. She questioned if UMass and the Duffy Property are part of the process. Mr. Chiasson stated that he has had discussions with Mr. Duffy and other city departments about the issue. They are looking for answers. They don't have as built plans for the pipes and what is under the parking lot.

Ms. Fowler stated that she is disappointed that CPW didn't come to them when it happened. Mr. Doyle stated that as a special condition that they will have to give an update on the condition of the pipe and a plan to what they are going to do to resolve the problem. CPW will need to report back to the Commission at the first meeting in June 2015.

Motion to approve the emergency certification made by Ms. Brodsky, seconded by Mr. Keleher. **Motion passed.**

### **Commission business:**

Meeting minutes: Motion to approve meeting minutes from 5/22/14 made by Ms. Brodsky, seconded by Mr. Dufromont. **Motion passed.**

### **Correspondence:**

- Email from Council Logan re: 24 Muldoons Court- The Commission believes this is a zoning issue and not a wetlands issue.
- Email from Dan Driscoll re: Charles River Bridge Project. This is the last remaining piece of the bike trail that goes through Waltham. They are going to be removing some vegetation. They are ok with it. Send an email to Dan Driscoll to ok the plans and request signage is put up explaining the project.
- Email from Catherine Cagle Re: encroachment at Paine Estate. The building department requested that the owner hire a surveyor and then move bushes onto their own property.
- Lycott Environmental Report for Hardy Pond- FYI report and ok to continue.
- Email from Ernest Pellegrino- He will begin his Eagle Scout project on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Ann Clifford will be there. Time will be sent out to Commission if anyone wants to stop by.
- Letter from Ralph Amelia to Board of Planning and Survey- He will need to submit maintenance records to the Commission yearly as required by the Board of Planning and Survey.
- Mike Chiasson submission of Piety Corner Culvert Maintenance agreement for records.
- Email from Catherine Cagle re: \$1000 donation for trees at the Paine Estate. Motion by Mr. Dufromont to accept donation for trees at Paine Estate, seconded by Ms. Brodsky. Motion passed. The Commission does not want White Pine trees planted.
- Tec Associates Re: Keolis Commuter Services, LLC 2014 Vegetation Control Program notification.
- Email from Diana Young Re: Fernald School- the CPC is requesting information from the Commission about Wetlands restrictions on the Fernald property. The city is looking into purchasing the land. Mr. Dufromont handed out maps of the Fernald property. The Commission will draft a letter with the Wetland guidelines,

and suggestion to the CPC to hire a consultant. The Commission can't recommend a consultant. It would be an ethics violation. They can look at applicants and make suggestions. They will also advise to contact Sheryl Waddick for guidance on hazardous material. If they city approves the purchase by December, they will receive a discount.

**Old Business:**

- Ms. Fowler- No updates
- Mr. Keleher- No Updates
- Mr. Doyle- He attended the budget hearings. Everything went well. They are interested on how the iPads and electronic filings are going. They want to do the same.
- Ms. Brodsky- She would like to set up specific times for site visits. The Commission members can block their schedule accordingly. The Commission decided that site visits will be scheduled on Tuesdays between 7am-9am and Wednesdays between 4pm and 6pm. Emergency site visits scheduled as needed.

**New Business:** Ms. Struz has resigned.

The Commission needs to find out how much is left in signage. Take it out as a committee.  
Add two members to Bill's list.

Ms. Brodsky requested a 15 minute executive session.

Motion made by Ms. Brodsky to adjourn meeting for executive session, seconded by Ms. Fowler.

**Motion passed.**