



Waltham Conservation Commission
June 26, 2014
Meeting Minutes

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

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm

Public hearing Cont.

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 submitted revised drawings. They met with CPW and they gave them a copy of the O and M plan. There was a site visit held on June 25th. At the site visit they realized that there was not a lot of poison ivy and that there is a lot of Virginia creeper. She doesn't know if that is why the neighborhood thought there was a lot of poison ivy. She revised the plan and took off the poison ivy plan. Ms. Cooney handed out a smaller plan of the planting plan. The plan shows the main interior of the lawn area. In the 50 foot buffer line, it is generally a standard condition not to use fertilizer. She is requesting permission to use fertilizer to establish the field. She thinks it's important due to the drainage system to not have a siltation and have it open a long time. They found it hard to establish grass at the McKenna playground in the zone. Mr. Doyle stated they talked about it at the site allowing fertilizer until it is established and not in perpetuity. A 2 year limitation and they need to stay within the walking area. Ms. Brodsky questioned if they had conversation with CPW about doing the maintenance work. Ms. Cooney stated yes and they are going to keep the records.

Mr. Keleher entered the meeting at 7:18pm.

Mr. Doyle asked Ms. Cooney to give small update to what they were speaking about. Mr. Keleher questioned who identified the poison ivy as creeper. Mr. Dufromont stated that it was obvious to everyone. Ms. Cooney stated that people who use the playground might have thought it was poison ivy.

There were no questions from the public.

Mr. Dufromont made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Ms. Brodsky. **Motion passed.**

Mr. Dufromont made a motion to issue a positive order of conditions with the condition that fertilizer can be used in the 50 foot buffer line as long as they stay within the walkway area until established 2 years. Seconded by Ms. Brodsky. **Motion passed.**

Request for use of Storer Conservation Land

Roger Wrubel from Mass Audubon Habitat Education Center & Wildlife Sanctuary

Re: Request for summer camp

Mr. Wrubel from Mass Audubon Society is requesting to use the Storer Conservation Land for a summer camp. They run a summer camp which is in session right now. The summer camp is successful enough that they don't have enough room. They are investigating starting a satellite program. The land is close enough and it seems like an ideal site. He already met with the Historical Commission and Catherine Cagle. The camp started in 1974 and in 1994 it became part of Mass Audubon. The camp is for ages 4-15. There are 500 campers. They have meaningful camp traditions that go on from year to year. The camp motto is Explore, Question, and Connect.

The age group that they are looking for a satellite program is ages 6-9. There will be 8 campers per teacher with two week sessions. They need access to certain things to run the camp. Bathrooms, water, refrigerators, in case there is bad weather like thunderstorms. The only thing they need outside is a flat grassy space that they can have meetings and run around and play games. They would need to have a fire safety inspection but they would take care of that.

Mr. Doyle stated Mr. Wrubel is going to have to go to a higher level for permission. Mr. Wrubel stated that he started writing a proposal to the Mayor but she told him to go to Conservation and Historical. Mr. Doyle thinks that it will be a

discussion between himself, Alex Green and Catherine Cagle. It's a public place and can a private entity use the space.

Mr. Keleher questioned what it means for the Commission to have care and control of the land if they can't make the decision. The Commission would have to find out the liability.

Mr. Dufromont stated that it is a public building owned by the public and the people of Waltham. He questioned if they expect to have full authority and full access to the site. There are a lot of other people who use the land. Mr. Wrubel stated that he spoke with Ann Clifford and that they could possibly use the dining room in the back of the house. It's close to the bathroom. Mr. Dufromont questioned the security and other people coming in. Mr. Wrubel stated it is similar to where they are now, that they are used to dog walkers around the camp. Mr. Dufromont questioned what the City gains from having the camp? Does it allow kids from Waltham to have access to it? Mr. Wrubel answered that it was up for discussion; maybe the kids from Waltham have first priority or have financial help or a smaller fee. Mr. Doyle stated that there is property next to the Paine Estate, it is the Coleman property. There is a possibility to do something there where restrictions don't apply. The only ponds on the Paine Estate are a vernal pool and they would not be allowed around that. Plus it will be dried up during the summer.

Ms. Brodsky questioned if he has approached Chapel Hill. Mr. Wrubel has not; they are not interested in partnering with another camp.

Mr. Doyle stated that no one is saying no. he thinks the next step to have a more detailed conversation. Mr. Wrubel asked Mr. Doyle if he should email Catherine Cagle. Mr. Doyle sent an email to Catherine Cagle and Alex Green during the meeting questioning what the next step is. Mr. Wrubel will send an email to everyone saying that he came to Conservation and looks forward to meeting with everyone.

Public Meeting

Request for Determination of Applicability

Applicant: Boston Properties

Project Location: 1601 Trapelo Road- Map 06 Block 01 Lot 02

Project Type: Repaving of portions of an existing parking area; removing and resetting existing curb; replacing an existing sidewalk and curb; restriping of existing parking spaces.

Mr. Marc Gabriel from BSC Group represented Boston Properties. They would like to repave the existing driveway and curbed parking area. Mr. Gabriel went over the plans. The property is predominantly office building, parking lot and landscaping. There will be removal of existing sidewalks and a couple of speed humps, removing the pavement and replacing the existing grade. They will be grinding 12 inches and putting down 4 inches of pavement. Then there will be restriping. Through the project they propose sediment protection silt sacks, catch basins, no stock piles within the 100 foot buffer zone and all will be taken out that day. There are no negative impacts to the jurisdictional area.

Mr. Doyle read a letter from Dave Kaplan from Cambridge Water Department that stated: "If the 1601 repaving is within the existing impervious footprint, please make sure that BP at least inspects and cleans the existing stormwater management system and ensures that it's functioning as intended. Plus the standard erosion control suite: silt sacks, silt fence, straw wattles, etc. Full depth excavations, pavement re-aligning should trigger a look at possible upgrades. Also, please try to steer them away from seal coating with coal-tar based sealants for their PAH contributions, if proposed or used in regular upkeep". Mr. Doyle looked over the plans. There is a man hole system but he can't tell what is going on underneath. Mr. Dufromont questioned if they can see the plans for what is underneath and have they come back at another meeting. Mr. Doyle stated there probably are no plans but they can do a site visit to see if the system needs to be upgraded. They will set up a site visit on July 9th and invite Mr. Kaplan. Motion to continue made by Ms. Brodsky to continue until next meeting, seconded by Mr. Dufromont. **Motion passed.**

Public Meeting

Request for Determination of Applicability

Applicant: Stephen Pfammatter & Erika Markou

Project Location: 115 Clark Lane, Map 41 Block 09 Lot 26

Mr. Bob Bibbo represented the applicant. They are proposing to construct an attached two car garage with a storage room to the right side of the house a covered entrance to enclose the existing open deck at the rear of the house. Mitigation will be three galleries and a catch basin pit which will control the run off from the driveway and the additional roof areas. Currently the runoff goes into the city catch basin in front of the property which flows southeasterly and eventually drains in to the open brook. This will greatly reduce the impact on the brook. Straw wattles will be installed along the lot line at the lower elevation for erosion control. Mr. Doyle stated that are mitigating everything to come off of the property. When it is riverfront the policy is shall shall not make worse. It will be cleaner and infiltrating.

There was a question of what the city drainage system looks like on Clark Lane. Mr. Bibbo stated it goes into the catch basin and down to the stream. Mr. Dufromont questioned if the rain from the existing part of the house going to be flowing into the new system. Mr. Bibbo stated no and just proposed new sun roof and deck. Mr. Dufromont questioned how difficult would it be to have all the drainage into one existing. Mr. Bibbo stated they would have to put galleries in the front. Mr. Dufromont requested that Mr. Bibbo look into.

Motion to issue negative determination by Mr. Dufromont under existing plans. Seconded by Mr. Keleher; **Motion passed.**

Commission business:

Motion to approve meeting minutes from 6/12/14 made by Ms. Brodsky, seconded by Mr. Dufromont. **Motion passed.**

Correspondence:

- Easement Language for Piety Corner- Mr. Doyle will look over.
- Dave Kaplan from Cambridge Water Department- Poison Ivy spraying around network gauging stations. Mr. Doyle questioned if everyone was ok with Mr. Kaplan spraying for Poison Ivy. Mr. Dufromont stated that he is sure that they will use the appropriate stuff. Reply back to Mr. Kaplan stating the Commission has no issue with performing maintenance.
- Councilor Robert Logan- Muldoons Court- Ms. Brodsky saw heavy machinery be used in the back of the property. Question if it's an area of 25 foot buffer zone or 200. Some places in the river are 25 foot riverfront. Ms. Brodsky state it was unclear what they are doing. Mr. Dufromont will take a look.

Old Business:

- Mr. Dufromont- No updates
- Mr. Keleher- No updates
- Mr. Doyle- No updates
- Ms. Brodsky- She has the list of who has open orders and o and m plans. She wants to work towards getting them taken care of. A lot of open orders are for city projects. Mr. Doyle suggested categorizing them by city, developers, etc. Ms. Brodsky suggested giving them 60-90 days to voluntarily close. Start by first letting them know and that it would be beneficial for them to close out before they are selling the house.

Committee reports:

- **CPC:** Mr. Dufromont stated there will be a meeting coming up. There will be a site visit by the boards if they want to come, the mayor will come up with the date. She is going to hire a bus to take a tour of the Fernald School. They are waiting to have a meeting to finalize the info to give to her and then she needs to decide what she wants to propose from CPA money and city money.

Site Visits:

- Ms. Brodsky stated that a couple of months ago Farwell Street and River Street was brought up by Ms. Fowler. Ms. Brodsky went by and the silt fences still need to be repaired. They were contacted and will be contacted again.
- Bentley- the Commission received a complaint that there was some clearing going on around the pond. Some of the commission members drove by. A site visit will be set up.

Motion to adjourn made by Ms. Brodsky, seconded by Mr. Dufromont. **Motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:34pm.