

Arlington Conservation Commission
Minutes
September 5, 2013

Mr. Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Town Hall Annex. Present were Nathaniel Stevens, Curt Connors, Eileen Coleman, Chris Naylor, Catherine Garnett, and David White of the Commission. Charles Tirone and Michelle Durocher, of the Commission, were not present. Also present was Jimmy Barvick and his father.

7:45 pm – Commission Business:

White/Naylor motioned to approve the 8/1 **minutes**; the motion passed unanimously.

Request for Certificate of Compliance – 18 Hamilton Rd, Spy Pond Condos shoreline stabilization project, DEP File No. 91-214. The Board of Trustees clarified its request to be for a full Certificate. White/Coleman motioned to issue a full Certificate; the motion passed unanimously.

Tree cutting along Mill Brook near Gold's Gym – Mr. Stevens noted that enforcement letters had been sent to both the owner and tenant of the property with no response. However, Ms. Beckwith's notes suggested that the second letter had been undeliverable to at least one of the parties. It was decided to hold on formal enforcement until it could be determined that the second letter had been received by both parties.

Mystic River Oil Spill – Ms. Beckwith had forwarded an update from Clean Harbors. There had been no major changes since Clean Harbors attended the Commission's meeting.

Water Chestnuts at Reservoir – Mr. White reported that Aquatic Control Technologies had conducted additional harvesting since its initial work in June. The water chestnuts were being stored on the spillway as before. Mr. White presented pictures showing that a significant number of water chestnuts still remained. Mr. White will follow up with ACT.

Busa Farms – The Town Manager had forwarded a plan pertaining to Busa Farms' redevelopment for Commission review. A positive from the plan is that fertilizers will be stored at least 200' from the Arlington Reservoir. Mr. White noted that in addition there is a raised berm that minimizes runoff to the Reservoir. Mr. Naylor will prepare draft comments to the plan and circulate for discussion at the Commission's September 19 meeting.

Town Day – The Commission discussed preparations for maintaining a booth during Town Day on September 21. The Commission, the Arlington Land Trust and the Open Space Committee will be consolidated into two adjacent areas. The schedule for

running the booth was discussed.

Land Stewards meeting on October 10th – Ms. Coleman has secured Charlotte Milan as the speaker for the meeting.

Steps at Windows on the Mystic – Mr. Barvick reported that he and his Eagle project group had completed a demonstration portion of the steps for Commission review and input. Mr. White had walked the site to view the demonstration project and circulated photographs he took. Mr. Barvick reported that they had switched to 4' x 4' boards due to cost and extra time required to work with 6' x 6' boards. Mr. White and Ms. Garnett highlighted that the Appalachian Mountain Club strongly advocates 6' x 6', as it has found 4' x 4' to lack durability, requiring frequent repair/replacement. The Commission and Mr. Barvick agreed to a run of fewer steps (10) in exchange for using 6' x 6'. The Commission felt that it was preferable to have a smaller portion of the steps done to AMC standards; perhaps other scouts could complete the remaining portions for their Eagle projects. White/Coleman motioned to grant \$525 from the Conservation Land Fund as reimbursement toward Mr. Barvick's project; the motion passed unanimously.

Symmes project – Mr. Stevens recused himself from discussion of Symmes due to his sitting on the Board of ALT. Ms. Garnett reported she had reviewed the latest draft of the Forest Management Plan and Coda and had no additional comments. She will communicate same to the Redevelopment Board and ALT. Ms. Garnett also reported on the trees that had been taken down near the trailer and her observations of the rock slope planting. Ms. Garnet will send an email regarding her concerns with the current vine-seeded sod approach to the rock slope planting.

Meeting adjourned at 10pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Curt Connors, Commission Member