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Conservation Commission Minutes 04/28/2011

Arlington Conservation Commission
Minutes
April 28, 2011

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, David White, Charles Tirone, Catherine Garnett, Ellen Reed and Curt Connors of the Commission. Karen Skinner-Catrone, Noamit Armony, Molly Groome, Sally Nash, Joey Glushko, Elizabeth Pyle, Michelle Durocher, Eileen Coleman, and Dan Morse were also in attendance.

7:45 pm – Commission Business

White/Tirone motioned to approve the **3/17 and 4/7 minutes** as written; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. White presented the proposal from the **Reservoir Habitat garden** project to fund a portion of the project from the Arlington Land Trust's Conservation Land Fund monies. The request is for \$2K in addition to release the \$3K that were previously donated specifically for this work.

Reed/Connors motioned to pay the first dedicated \$3K to the project; motion passed unanimously, Mr. White abstaining.

Reed/Connors motioned to contribute another \$2K to the project to cover the projected budget submitted by David White; motion passed unanimously, Mr. White abstaining.

8pm **Notice of Intent** – 63 Beverly Rd

The consultant presented the project to demolish the existing single family home and rebuild on essentially the same footprint with minor changes to the rear of the house, as there will be 3 stories facing the waterfront. With the reconfiguration of the driveways at the front of the lot, the impervious surfaces decrease from 2868 sf to 2808 sf.

The homeowners said all the trees in the backyard will remain. Construction access and stockpiling will be at the front of the property, the street side.

No regrading will take place to the back yard beyond the foundation work and to install the stormwater infiltration system. A new foundation will be installed in the same footprint.

The Commission stated that the trees should have to have padding or fencing for protection during construction per the Commission's regulations, and this could be inspected during the preconstruction inspection of erosion controls.

Tirone/White motioned to close the hearing as there were no further questions; motion passed unanimously.

8:15pm **Working Session** – 459 Mystic St

The homeowner presented draft plans to demolish the existing single family home and build a new modular home, called Blue Homes, and is smaller than the existing structure. The owner would like to slightly reorient the house to face the waterfront and to install an earthen berm at the road side of the property to control noise from Mystic St.

The Commission will need a landscaping plan with the proposed design which should include any mitigation for development in the Riverfront Area, if the structure was closer to Herbert Meyer Brook.

The Commission also recommended hiring an environmental consultant to help with the permit application process and the interpretation of the redevelopment standards.

8:30pm **Discussion** - Wellington Park tennis courts landscaping plan

The Commission received plans via email for the mitigation areas and still needs paper copies of this plan for review.

8:45pm **Working Session** - raingarden

Ms. Glushko and Ms. Nash presented plans to install a rain garden next to the playground at Spy Pond Park. The garden would be excavated approximately 1-1.5 feet lower. The work would be done with a small excavator like a Bobcat. It would be approximately 150 sf and be located at about 90-95 feet from the shoreline of Spy Pond.

The board suggested using the abbreviated Notice of Intent form and check on which abutter would need to be notified. The plan should show the limit of work and the erosion controls.

Commission Business (cont.)

The Commission spent time with the **new applicants**, getting to know them and introducing the board and staff.

The Commission returned to discussion and deliberation for the application at **63 Beverly Rd.** The board looked for a copy of the revised plan sheet showing the stormwater controls but could not find it as the applicant had not provided it or left a copy. The board also had questions on the construction access route, the location and details of the infiltrator, rear foundation. They would also like a site walk.

White/Connors motioned to reopen the hearing and continue it to the next meeting; motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Beckwith will send out possible dates for the **Meadowbrook Park cleanup**.

Arlington Land Trust has completed the paperwork for the Conservation Restriction and the deed recording for **Elizabeth Island** and forwarded a request to pay them \$22K in land fund money as agreed previously.

White/Garnett motioned to approve the release of \$22K from the Conservation Land fund; motion passed, Mr. Stevens abstained.

The commission discussed their recommendation for the new members.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Corinna Beckwith
Commission Administrator