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Conservation Commission Minutes 07/14/2011

Arlington Conservation Commission
Minutes
July 14, 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, Catherine Garnett, Charles Tirone, Curt Connors, and Michelle Durocher, of the Commission. Chris Naylor and Elaine Coleman, of the Commission, were not in attendance. Also present were Brian Knowles, Catherine Cahill, Zoltan Juhasz, Jerry Malone, Izhar Armony, Joey Glushko, and Sally Naish.

7:45 pm – Commission Business

Connors/White motioned to approve the 6/16 **minutes** with edits; motion passed unanimously.

The town's project to remove **water chestnuts** from Arlington Reservoir received a Neg. Determination of Applicability from the Lexington Conservation Commission on 7/12/11. Mr. Tirone filed and presented the project to them. They would issue their permit soon. The Town Manager approved the use of the Water bodies Fund for this project.

The **Walking book subcommittee** met for the first time on 7/7/11 and assigned jobs. They will meet next on 8/2/11. When a room is booked, they will post an announcement of the meeting and an agenda, followed by minutes.

The **Erosion Control workshop** is scheduled for 10/24/11 at the Senior Center lower level conference room, for 7:30-9:30pm.

8pm **Notice of Intent** – Spy Pond Park Raingarden

Ms. Glushko presented the project to install a raingarden next to Pond Lane in Spy Pond Park.

Mr. Tirone asked if it was necessary to designate a stockpile area on the plans. Ms. Naish explained that any spoils removed from the center of the garden would be used to create a berm at the lower end of the garden in order to slow the flow of water through the area. This is to promote the infiltration of the water.

No erosion controls were proposed as the area is very flat and is 95 feet from the shoreline. No fencing was proposed, temporary or permanent. Mr. White commented that some temporary fencing may be useful (as shown at the Reservoir garden project) to keep out foot traffic while the plants get established.

Ms. Garnett arrived, at this time, to the meeting.

Mr. Tirone proposed adding a condition to install erosion controls if the work lasts longer than a week, in a U shape between the work and the water and to install fencing as necessary to establish the garden.

White/Tirone motioned to close the hearing; motion passed unanimously.

White/Connors motioned to approve the project with the above conditions; motion passed unanimously. Ms. Garnett abstained from voting.

8:15pm **Notice of Intent** – 63 Sunnyside Ave

Brian Knowles presented the project to construct an addition to the rear of this attached single family home. The 100-year flood elevation is in the rear portion of the lot. The attached porch would have no footings, with a cantilever construction, as to avoid any footings in the floodplain.

The asphalt driveway is to be replaced in kind. One large tree needs to come out. Replanting amount is at the discretion of the board.

The Commission asked that three trees be installed along the northern boundary of the lot, possibly birches.

Mr. Tirone asked if the 50% Riverfront fee was also collected with the submission. Ms. Beckwith didn't think this had been included.

One tree will need to be pruned in order for machinery to access the area of the addition.

The Commission conditioned that no stockpiles be allowed on the site. The consultant said that all spoils will be loaded immediately onto trucks and disposed of offsite.

The erosion control line is to be installed at the lower end of the driveway. Mr. Tirone asked that a line of sock/tube filled erosion control be added to the end of the driveway at the end of each work day and the applicant agreed. Snow fence shall also be used at the end of the driveway.

The Commission directed that the oil tank be re-installed in a location no closer to the wetland/resource area than it already is. Any dumpsters used on site, shall be covered. If the stairs on the south side of the house are redesigned in a different configuration then a permit amendment is required.

The Commission asked the proponent to consider the use of permeable pavers for a section of the driveway to offset the increased impervious area of 150 sf.

Mr. Tirone also considered the new porch closer to the resource areas even though it was not constructed on the ground.

The roof leaders will go to a rainbarrel.

White/Connors motion to continue the hearing to 8/4 at 8:15pm with the applicant's consent to consider these small design alterations and to provide the board with an additional plan that includes these; motion passed unanimously.

8:30pm **Notice of Intent** – 63 Beverly Rd, continued from 6/16/11

The revised plans were submitted and show that the impervious area of the new house and landscaping will be similar to the existing, especially with the removal of the side asphalt driveway.

Three drywells have been added to the stormwater design, two providing disposal of roof runoff and 1 for the foundation drain.

The Commission directed that all erosion controls use straw instead of hay.

The applicant is not ready to submit a landscaping plan at this point, therefore, any significant changes to the landscaping in the future will need a permit amendment or a new permit.

The applicant submitted detailed specifications on the protection of the large oaks during construction. The Commission will include a condition that these be strictly followed. If a tree does not survive this work, then the homeowner shall return to approve the replanting of three new trees or similar mitigation.

No test pit has been dug on this lot as of yet. If the groundwater is found to be higher than expected, then the drywells can be redesigned to accommodate this.

The Commission asked the homeowner to provide a copy of the existing dock permit from Chapter 91.

One tree in the front yard will be removed with this work.

The plan shows a well easement. The homeowner is moving to remove this easement. This permit does not allow for installation of a water well.

Tirone/Garnett motioned to close the hearing; the motion passed unanimously.

Connors/Tirone motioned to approve the project with the above conditions; motion passed unanimously.

8:45pm **Abbreviate Notice of Resource Area Determination** – Lot E Dothan St

This application was withdrawn by the applicant's representative on 7/13/11.

9pm **Request for Determination of Applicability** – water chestnut harvesting from Arlington Reservoir

Mr. Tirone presented this project to use a mechanical harvester, operated by Aquatic Control Technology, Inc. to remove 6-8 acres of the invasive aquatic plant, water chestnuts.

The Lexington Conservation Commission approved this project on 7/12/11 with the condition that the stockpile be enclosed by siltfence.

A conveyor track will not be used since the Arlington DPW can use a backhoe to reach into the boat to offload the plants into tubs to move to the stockpile area. The plants will dewater in the stockpile until their removal for disposal at either the Lexington composting facility or incineration at the Andover waste facility.

This work is a limited project, 310 CMR 10.53 (4), as it is resource area improvement.

The Commission will condition its approval of this work with: 1) the plant material must be properly composted and disposed of to ensure that the seeds do not spread, 2) the stockpiled plants must be removed after 21 days after completion of work, 3) the stockpile must be surrounded by erosion controls, 4) trees may be trimmed at the shoreline to allow for access of the harvester boat.

Work should begin from 8/1-8/5.

Connors/Garnett motioned to approve the project with the above conditions; motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Corinna Beckwith
Commission Administrator