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Conservation Commission Minutes 05/21/2009

Arlington Conservation Commission
 Minutes
 May 21, 2009

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, William O'Rourke, Ellen Reed, Ezra Benjamin, and Catherine Garnett of the Commission. Brian Thomas, Associate member, was also in attendance. Charles Tirone of the Commission was not in attendance. Also present were Mike Rademacher, Town Engineer, Leslie Mayer, Arlington Parks and Recreation Commission, Rob Olver, Jennifer Griffith, David Dolan and Elsie Fiore.

7:45 p.m. – Commission Business

Reed/Benjamin motioned to approve the 12/4/08, 2/26, 3/5 and 5/7 **minutes** with edits; motion passed unanimously.

8pm – **Notice of Intent** – Mill Brook Culverts at Brattle St and Mill Lane

Mr. Rademacher presented the project to replace the culvert at Brattle St. The existing stone culvert is falling in. The new design will include a concrete box culvert with a solid bottom and a back up circular culvert placed at an invert 1 foot higher in order to allow the low flow to remain in the box culvert. One tree that is 20 inch diameter will need to be removed for this work. Mr. Rademacher did not know the species. The culvert bottom would include installation of baffles to prevent sheet flow. There also is a sewer pipe crossing the bottom and this would be encased in concrete and would serve as a baffle.

The culvert at Mill Lane will be replaced with an open bottom concrete box culvert. One wall will need to be constructed upstream of the culvert and the other slope will get additional riprap at the location of the outlet pipe from the tiger cage (which conveys Geri's Brook to Mill Brook). The wall would be approximately 2 feet tall but increase to 8 feet tall at the inlet to the culvert.

Two 12 inch diameter trees and three 10 inch diameter will need to be cut down in order to do this work. The Town will look into whether the adjacent Schwamb Mill property would allow trees to be replanted on their property. This would help to satisfy the Town's wetlands regulation for plant replacement.

The erosion control specification stipulated using haybales. The Commission asked that this be changed to straw bales only.

White/Garnett motion to continue the hearing to 6/4 at 8:15pm in order to allow for notification of abutters; motion passed unanimously.

8:30pm – **Notice Of Intent** – Thorndike Field Parking Lot

Ms. Mayer and Mr. Olver presented the project to redesign the parking lot at Thorndike Field. The design includes a turn around, additional parking spaces with porous paving, a new sidewalk, 3 feet widening of entry drive and additional landscaping.

Ms. Mayer reported that the Redevelopment board issued a permit for the project.

Mr. Olver presented details of the drainage design. The site should have a 10-15% decrease in runoff. The porous system would have an overflow to a pipe outlet. It was suggested to have this pipe perforated in order to allow for additional infiltration. Due to the high groundwater table, it was concluded that this would probably only served to increase the discharge to the stormwater system. The Commission would condition that the outlet pipe be a solid

pipe.

The Commission asked that frequent inspections be conducted during the construction of this drainage system as its effectiveness was in the details of the design elements.

The sidewalk would be constructed of stabilized aggregate with concrete parts for the handicap ramp and driveway access. The porous pavement will consist of plastic honeycomb filled with crushed stone.

The plant list is included on plan sheet L-1. Ms. Garnett recommended that the inkberry should be a naturalized variety and asked if the Bluemist Fothergilla was a native.

The driveway was being lowered even though it will be wider in order to prevent any impact to the floodplain. The 1% grade is very flat so it should be well marked on the construction plans in order for the contractor to carry out the proposed plan. Mr. O'Rourke would like to review the construction plans.

Benjamin/White motioned to approve the proposal with the conditions to 1) have an environmental monitor, 2) to use naturalized inkberry and native fothergilla, 3) review the construction plans, 4) use solid pipe for the infiltration system outlet; motion passed unanimously.
Commission Business (cont.)

The project at **15 Thesda St**, (DEP File No. 91-189) has filed for their Certificate of Compliance. Ms. Beckwith conducted a site walk on 5/15/09. The owner filed a survey plot plan.
O'Rourke/Garnett motioned to approve the Certificate of Compliance; motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Beckwith conducted a site walk to **995 Massachusetts Ave** in regard to the request for a Certificate of Compliance for the bioengineering of a slope of Mill Brook. Ms. Beckwith noted that some areas of grass were still not completely grown in. It was her recommendation, and the board agreed, to leave the erosion controls in place until the soils were stabilized.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30pm.
Respectfully submitted,
Corinna Beckwith
Administrator