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Conservation Commission Minutes 07/09/2009

Arlington Conservation Commission
 Minutes
 July 9, 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, Ezra Benjamin, Ellen Reed, and Catherine Garnett of the Commission. Brian Thomas, associate member, was in attendance. Charles Tirone and William O'Rourke of the Commission were not in attendance. Also present were members of the Spy Pond Committee, Rich Kirby, and Libby Peura.

7:45 pm - Commission Business

White/Benjamin motioned to approve the 6/18 **minutes** with edits; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. White reported that there is a meeting to be held on Tuesday, July 14, at Follen Community Church to discuss **Great Meadows** upland restoration.

Mr. White reported a discussion is to be held with Waterfield Design Group of Winchester, the selected consultant for the **Cookes Hollow** project.

The Board Commission discussed the letter of support of for the proposal to study and create the **Mill Brook Linear Park** in Arlington. White/Benjamin motioned to approve; motion passed unanimously.

It has been reported that the **Arlington Reservoir** has weeds. The Arlington Department of Public Works will be inspecting the Reservoir to document the problem. Normally, inspection treatment is completed by the DPW in August.

8pm – **Working Session** – Spy Pond Committee, phragmites

The Spy Pond Committee presented an initial management plan for the control of Phragmites that is now growing along the northern, southern, and western edges of Spy Pond. The Spy Pond Committee presented that up to 27 private residences could be involved in the management plan, and came in front of the Board Commission to determine how best to complete requirements for the submittal of an NOI for the proposed project.

The management plan will likely involve the spraying of Rodeo (name; Aquatic Round-up) using both backpack and boat application methods.

The Board Commission suggested the following for submittal of an NOI for the project:

- 1) The NOI must list individual property owners
- 2) Generic pPlanting plans should be submitted for each individual property. Plans detailing existing and proposed conditions should delineate the buffer zone from top of bank. The plans can be generic in that suggested options for plantings can be made given specific water depths from the shore and need only indicate replanting plans within areas of disturbed areas (i.e. areas of Phragmites removal).
- 3) The Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program should be notified of the project.
- 4) The Board Commission would further investigate the submittal process for the proposed work. Specifically, the Board Commission would determine if one NOI with multiple signatory forms would be required for submittal.

8:50 pm - **Notice of Intent** - 18 Reed St (continued)

A site visit was held on June 29, 2009, with members of the Board Commission. A written response to initial comments was submitted July 6, 2009. A supplemental revised planting plan was submitted via email on July 16, 2009.

The BoardCommission clarified the definition of stream and river under the Bylaw and Commission regulations to determine consistency with riverfront definitions. The BoardCommission determined that no riverfront analysis was required.

Ms. Reed questioned the removal of the 3 existing trees on the property within the buffer zone. Mr. Kirby suggested replacing with trees and shrubs in the rear of the property to mitigate for the removal of the existing trees. The supplemental revised planting plan, submitted July 16, 2009, documents the proposed mitigation planting.

The proposed mitigation planting area is on the adjacent lot and is proposed at a ratio of 3.5 to 1. Ms. Garnett asked for clarification of how the mitigation planting would be maintained and/or enforced after the site is split into 2 lots. Mr. Kirby suggested adding language to the deed allowing for an easement to maintain the mitigation plantings. The BoardCommission will review the language prior to sale of the current lot, which will be split upon sale.

White\Benjamin motioned to close the hearing. A brief discussion was held concerning the conditions of the permit to include an updated planting plan, pervious surface driveway materials, and a review of the deed and easement by the BoardCommission prior to sale. White\Reed motioned to approve; motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.
Respectfully submitted,
Brian Thomas
Associate Member