



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
**730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476**  
**Phone: 781-316-3000**

**webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us**

## Conservation Commission Minutes 08/07/2008

ARLINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
 MINUTES  
 AUGUST 7, 2008

Mr. Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Town Hall Annex. Present were Nathaniel Stevens, David White, Charles Tirone, and Catherine Garnett of the Commission, as was Associate Member Ezra Benjamin. Ellen Reed, Tim Sullivan and William O'Rourke of the Commission were not in attendance. Martha Penzenik, Robert and Elaine Bowes presented the 26 Lakeview project. Joe Connelly, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department, and Leslie Mayer of the Park and Recreation Commission and the Reservoir Committee presented the Thorndike Field parking lot designs.

Richard Kirby, of LEC Environmental Consultants, and Sandy Caffelle presented the project behind 107 Thesda St. Frances Cameron of 9 Princeton Road was also present.

7:30 p.m. - COMMISSION BUSINESS

White/Tirone motioned to approve the 7/17 minutes with minor edits; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stevens reported that he will meet with the Town Manager on 8/19/08 regarding filling the position on the board soon to be vacated by Mr. Sullivan's departure.

White/Tirone motioned to recommend Associate Member Ezra Benjamin for full membership to the Conservation Commission; motion passed unanimously.

7:45pm- NOTICE OF INTENT- 26 LAKEVIEW ST

This hearing was continued from 7/17/08. The abutters were notified and the legal ad went to the Advocate. The work is to remodel the existing single family house on essentially the same footprint as the existing. There will be some minor landscaping work, with no tree removal.

The Commission required that any new drywells be installed behind the proposed site erosion control line, within the proposed work area. Ms. Penzenik agreed with this request.

The Commission also required that the haybale referenced be removed from a foundation protocol list presented by Ms. Penzenik at the meeting. Ms. Penzenik agreed that only the mulch tubes would be used.

Tirone/White motioned to approved the proposed work with the above conditions; motion passed unanimously.

8pm – WORKING SESSION – Thorndike Field parking lot design

Mr. Connelly presented the various designs to the Commission. Ms. Mayer asked for any input on the variations. Ms. Beckwith expressed approval of including porous pavers for the parking spaces. This will address the stormwater runoff problems in the area.

Mr. Tirone asked about the paving of the sidewalks. Ms Mayer said that they would consider the use of the same bonded aggregate being used at Spy Pond Park and Menotomy Rocks Park.

Ms. Mayer discussed that any vegetation removal would be replaced. The large row of shade trees along the southwest side of the lot would be preserved.

The Commission recommended replanting with native species and evergreens. Ms. Mayer reported that the site is being considered for a grant to install raingardens.

Ms. Mayer asked if the Conservation Commission wanted to be first in line of the permit process. Mr. Stevens suggested that the Redevelopment Board should approve the final design layout first, then the Conservation Commission can review it for any other environmental impacts.

Ms. Mayer asked about the wetland delineation process for the survey work. Ms. Beckwith responded that she didn't have the time or resources at present to perform this work and that she could recommend a few consultants to do this task. Mr. Stevens asked if Mr. Sullivan might be willing to perform this task for the town.

8:15pm – NOTICE OF INTENT – rear of 107 THESDA ST

This proposal is for a new single family house on a lot to be subdivided from 107 Thesda St and will be given an address on Dothan St. The lot is within the Buffer Zone to the Bordering Vegetated Wetland located in the McClennen Park immediately adjacent to the lot.

The Commission held a site walk on 8/6/08 and confirmed that the site is gently sloping and contains shrubs and trees.

Ms. Beckwith asked for the datum on the site elevations to confirm that the basement elevation was not going to get wet. The 100 year flood elevation for the adjacent park is 186 feet NGVD. This information should be confirmed and submitted to the Commission.

Mr. Kirby included 7 mature trees that will need be removed and proposed drywells on the Revegetation layout plan that he brought to the meeting. The replanting plan includes 20 trees and 30 shrubs.

Mr. Kirby reported that the proposal for access along Dothan St will go before a Board of Survey hearing on 9/8/08. The Board of Selectmen act as the Board of Survey in Arlington.

Ms. Garnett proposed replacing the Silver Maples with White Pine along the western side of the lot. It is also possible that the large multi-trunked Silver Maple may be saved if the drywells can be installed outside the Buffer Zone. The final design will be determined when the roof design is completed and can be filed with the Commission at the Preconstruction meeting and will be a condition of the permit.

The Commission also required that the erosion control design replace haybales with straw bales or use the mulch-filled tubes or socks.

White/Garnett motioned to approve the proposed work with the above conditions; motion passed unanimously.

#### COMMISSION BUSINESS (cont.)

Ms. Cameron, of 9 Princeton Rd, described how her shorefront property on Spy Pond has experienced past erosion (losing a couple of feet of land) and has discussed a shoreline stabilization project with Carol Johnson and Associates. The work would be similar to that done at the Spy Pond Condos and the Spy Pond park shoreline projects and include both stonework and plantings.

Mr. Stevens directed Ms. Cameron to have Carol Johnson (or any other consultant) begin the permit review process with Ms. Beckwith. Ms. Beckwith gave her number to Ms. Cameron.

Mr. Stevens asked about the proposed replanting plan for 9 Brantwood Rd, which is under a conservation easement. The owners would like to remove the Norway Maples and replant. Ms. Beckwith asked that the owners submit the planting plan to the Commission.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Corinna Beckwith  
Administrator