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Conservation Commission Minutes 08/21/2008

ARLINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
AUGUST 21, 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, Tim Sullivan and Catherine Garnett of the Commission. Ellen Reed and William O'Rourke of the Commission were not in attendance, as nor was Associate Member Ezra Benjamin. Mark Mitsch of Weston & Sampson and Candice Thayer were present for the 993-995 Massachusetts Ave project, as were Lydia Umaschi, Caroline Phelan, and Karen Lombard.

7:30 p.m. - COMMISSION BUSINESS

White/Tirone motioned to approve the 8/7 minutes with minor edits; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stevens noted that there is a Mill Brook corridor plan in the first floor conference room, which is very interesting. This was probably generated in order to support the grant application to the National Parks Service.

The Commission discussed having Associate Members that are fully reviewed and approved the same as full members, so that, when needed, they can easily replace a member who moves or becomes unable to continue serving on the board. This idea was received favorably.

7:45pm- NOTICE OF INTENT- 993-995 MASSACHUSETTS AVE – slope stabilization work

Mr. Mitsch presented the plan to control the erosion of the steep embankment at the location of a large outfall to Mill Brook. The work included riprap must but is mostly bioengineering consisting of wood cribs with live shrub cuttings. The shrub roots will help stabilize the slope.

The construction period should be about 1 month, with the use of smaller contractors due to the size of the project and the confined spaces. The shrub species are to be determined, but should include willow, dogwood. The Commission thought that a variety of species would be a wise choice.

The Commission also recommended the use of straw bales or silt socks filled with straw or mulch for erosion control. In-stream siltation control should consist of silt fabric.

Sullivan/White motioned to approved the proposed work with the condition to approve the plant selection; motion passed unanimously.

COMMISSION BUSINESS (cont.)

The Commission discussed participation at Town Day on September 20.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinna Beckwith
Administrator