



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

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

Conservation Commission Minutes, 01/20/05

ARLINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

JANUARY 20, 2005

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 Catherine Garnett, Judith Hodges, Nathaniel Stevens, Ellen Reed, Timothy Sullivan, William O'Rourke and David White of the Commission. Also in attendance were Richard Piazza, Tom Reilly, G. Pijey, Elizabeth Karpati, Jane Howard, Stroker Rogevin, and Joey Glushko, Planner, Town of Arlington.

7:30 p.m. - COMMISSION BUSINESS

White/Reed motioned to support a Warrant Article for the 2005 Town Meeting to create an account for the Commission's fees (53e1!2) that is more readily accessible to the Commission for administration purposes; motion passed unanimously.

A second warrant article, adding additional small wetlands to the Zoning overlay district and map, was delayed until next year.

7:45pm ENFORCEMENT - 335 MYSTIC STREET

Mr. Piazza discussed the history of his parcel with the Commission and the board discussed its vision for the remediation that should take place on the slope within 100 feet of Mystic Lake. The Piazzas are currently looking into the possibility of subdividing the parcel into two and selling the lot on containing the lower terrace and the area in which clearing was done without a permit. Mr. Piazza was in agreement with planting a line of trees at the base of the slope next to the shoreline, which would still allow views over the top. The rest of the slope could be planted with lower growing shrubs. With Mr. Piazza's acknowledgement agreement, a due date for the planting plan was set at March 17, 2005 and a due date for the plants to be installed was set for May 18th, 2005. The Commission agreed to send a letter to the Piazzas detailing confirming this discussion and what actions to be taken.

8:00pm – SPY POND- working session regarding aquatic weeds and Rt. 2 path rehabilitation

Ms. Howard presented the Commission with language for a Warrant Article requesting funds for treatment of aquatic weeds in Spy Pond. The Commission would be a cosponsor of this article. Mr. White added that the goal of these actions were to improve the environmental conditions in the pond.

White/O'Rourke motioned to approve the language and support the Warrant Article; motion passed unanimously. Ms. Howard will submit the article.

The Commission will review the existing permits for this work to see if a new permit is needed and inform Ms. Howard of the results.

Mr. Rogevin and Ms. Glushko discussed Tthe Town planned is pursuing a work to rehabilitatetion of the path along the southern side of Spy Pond, adjacent to Route 2. This project includes removal of invasive species, pruning to create vistas, erosion control and stabilization of access points to the pond's edge. Mr. Rogevin is organizing AMC personnel to coordinate volunteers work crews for the trail work. Ms. Glushko is currently drafting a Notice of Intent for this project.

8:40pm – WINDOW ON THE MYSTIC – trail improvement project by Tommy Reilly, Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Reilly presented his project to the Commission. A site walk was conducted with Mr. White to outline the work that is needed. The paths will be cleared, terraced and obstructions removed. The Japanese knotweed will be removed once removal and disposal method is confirmed. Another ground cover (that might not be an invasive) will be left alone until identification is confirmed.

The work is proposed to be completed by end of May. The Commission will inspect the work after completion and the project is due for signing off by July 28th. The Commission required that a field meeting be conducted prior to commencing work in the spring.

O'Rourke/White motioned to approve the proposed work; motion passed unanimously.

OTHER COMMISSION BUSINESS-

Ms. Garnett has begun work on a tree replacement plan for the Arlington Reservoir. She has conducted a site walk and identified specific areas and completed some preliminary tree counts. The plan needs coordination with John Sanchez, DPW Director, and Mark Mitsch, engineering consultant for the Dam rehabilitation project.

HEARING – WETLANDS PROTECTION REGULATIONS

The Commission discussed proposed revisions to is currently drafting a revision the Regulations for Wetlands Protection.

White/O'Rourke motioned to continue the discussion to the next meeting on hearing to Feb. 3, 2005; motion passed unanimously.

The Commission voted to convene at approximately 11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Corinna Beckwith