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Conservation Commission Minutes, November 3, 2005

ARLINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
 MINUTES

NOVEMBER 3, 2005

Mr. White called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Town Hall Annex. Present were Timothy Sullivan, David White, William O'Rourke, and Judith Hodges of the Commission. Nathaniel Stevens, Ellen Reed and Catherine Garnett of the Commission were not in attendance. Patricia Worden and David Stoff were also in attendance.
 7:30 p.m. - COMMISSION BUSINESS

Mr. White sent a letter to Fred Laskey, MWRA, to thank him for his cooperation on the matter at Turkey Hill.

Mr. White distributed a copy of a letter to the Editor in the last issue of the Arlington Advocate regarding the involvement of the Conservation Commission in drafting the Symmes property Conservation restriction. The board will draft a response.

Mr. White reported that the Open Space Committee is looking into the possibility of asking the Board of Selectmen to consider transferring Arlington's Great Meadows in Lexington into Arlington Conservation Land, managed by the Arlington Conservation Commission and the Land Stewards group. They are considering the proper timing of such a request.

Mr. White also reported on the latest site walk by John Sanchez, DPW director, at the Arlington Reservoir Dam project. The dam, walkways, bridges and berm have been completed, but there are many site cleanup and final points to attend to. Ms. Garnett is going to volunteer a landscape design, but will need a good set of plans.

Ms. Beckwith updated the Board on the status of the parking lot work at Acorn Park Drive (DEP File Number 91-178). That the work was completed and the applicants had requested a Certificate of Compliance for this work, which involved the removal of pavement on the lot which is owned by the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

O'Rourke/Hodges motioned to issue the Certificate of Compliance for this work; motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Beckwith asked the board to review the drafted Stormwater Bylaw and Mr. Stoff gave a few comments, mainly on the scope of bylaw. Mr. Stoff made the point that the most effective BMPs for each pollutant in an affected waterway (with information from the 303 list), should be required instead of just what the developer states is the most cost-efficient for each redevelopment project. Ms. Beckwith and Mr. Sullivan explained the background in the state's wetlands protection laws that redevelopment standards are usually to improve upon the situation, but not by how much.

Ms. Beckwith reported on the latest meeting of the Muskrat Marsh restoration group. Ellen Mass from FAR, has requested that the town's Conservation Commissions draft letters of support for the project, and that this would aid in grants applications. The water table data was distributed to the group and to Horsley and Witten, who has been hired to look at the feasibility of the project.

Ms. Beckwith distributed a revised plan sheet with topography for the 0 Spy Pond Parkway house proposal.

Ms. Beckwith also reviewed the final drainage plans for the Armstrong Ambulance proposal at 87 Mystic St. The plans include a drywell and a roof drainage tank for reuse as landscaping water.

The Commission voted to convene at approximately 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
 Corinna Beckwith
 Administrator