

Arlington Conservation Commission  
Minutes  
September 3, 2015

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, Curt Connors, David White, Janine White, Mike Nonni, Susan Chapnick, Charles Tirone, Eileen Coleman and Catherine Garnett. Also present were Kelsey Cowen, David Azanow, Gregory Ginet, and Kerri Oberhauser.

7:30pm – Commission Business:

DWhite/Chapnick motioned to approve the 8/20 **minutes** with edits; motion passed unanimously.

DWhite/JWhite motioned to approve the **2016 meeting calendar**; motion passed unanimously.

Connors/DWhite motioned to approve the Order of Conditions for 1167R Massachusetts Ave; motion passed 5-0 with Mr. Stevens and Mr. Tirone abstaining due to absence from at least one of the public hearings on this matter.

DWhite/JWhite motioned to approve the Order of Conditions for 26 Spy Pond Parkway; motion passed 5-0 with Mr. Stevens and Mr. Tirone abstaining due to absence from at least one of the public hearings on this matter.

7:45pm **Notice of Intent** – 4 Mystic Bank

Mr. Connors recused himself and left the meeting room.

Ms. Oberhauser explained that she met with Wayne Chouinard, Town Engineer, at the drainage easement. She relayed his concurrence that the area should receive a layer of gravel for the equipment to ride on. Ms. Beckwith recommended that the Commission receive written confirmation for the file.

Mr. Nonni also said the area was very steep at the very top. The recommendation is that the gravel layer should be  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch compacted stone, 4 inches deep, with water bars, 4 feet apart, and use 6 inch diameter timbers.

Ms. Chapnick stated that tree protection measure should be on the larger trees, which include 2 by 4's with wire and strawbales.

The detailed plant list should be submitted for areas #1, #5 and #6 on plan. The planting plan should include totals and sizes of the larger plants.

The applicant should provide a narrative as to why the mitigation meets the standards in the vegetation replacement guidelines in the local regulations.

The footing for the new wall should be at least as deep or deeper as the existing footing.

Chapnick/Nonni motioned to continue the hearing to the next meeting on Sept. 17, at 9pm; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Connors returned to the meeting.

#### 8pm **Notice of Intent** – 86 Coolidge Rd, deck and renovations

Mr. Azanow presented an invasive species management plan, with no tree removal included, all done by hand and with replacements. The management area is all behind the house and on the southern side of the BVW.

Mr. Tirone stated that he wants to ensure the survivability of this work with 2 full seasons of inspection for success of new plantings until the COC would be issued. He also asked for a detail of the planting on the sloped ground.

Ms. Chapnick remarked on the comment received from Mr. Ginet who lives downslope of the project. His main comment is that the invasive control plan doesn't address drainage from the area.

Mr. Whettle commented by email suggestions for bracing the deck without a footing. Mr. Azanow responded that the foundation wall is block which would not support this kind of construction.

The Commission asked for the driveway wall specifications. Mr. Azanow said that Mr. Campbell was still assembling that information.

Ms. Beckwith suggested that they might look for evidence of the water table where the footing is proposed with a hand auger hole. Mr. Kirby of LEC should perform this inspection since he has background in soil evaluation, with Ms. Beckwith or Ms. White present.

This auger inspection, the driveway specification and the planting on a slope specification are items still outstanding.

DWhite/Connors motioned to continue the hearing to 9/17 at 8:15pm; motion passed unanimously.

Commission Business, cont.:

Ms. Cowen may help the Commission start an **Across Arlington** project similar that in Lexington. CPA money may be useful.

The Commission is looking for a new **Land Stewards Coordinator**.

Ms. Beckwith reported that the DPW will hold a **tree hearing** for removal of a few trees along the property line of the Window on the Mystic and the direct abutter.

Mr. White asked for an update on the snow storage area at the **Arlington Reservoir**.

Mr. White showed us photos of the new **stairs** at Window on the Mystic, this will be an item in our newsletter.

Mr. Tirone reported that 2 trees had been cut at **104 Spy Pond Parkway**.

Ms. Beckwith asked when the **Waterbodies** working group would have a report. They are working on a spreadsheet and a ranking list for the full Commission's review by December, so as to be prepared for the Finance Committee meeting in early February.

Mr. White reported that the **water chestnut removal** work from the Arlington Reservoir was not completed likely because of budgetary or scheduling constraints. There are still many of them left in the waterbody to reseed next year's growth. The Res Committee may organize a hand pulling.

Ms. Garnett reported on **Symmes** that a tree split in July or August and it was removed. The sale of the Arlington 360 development happened. The engineered hillslope is only growing in in spots. There is a large patch of poison ivy.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Corinna Beckwith  
Commission Administrator