

Arlington Conservation Commission
Minutes
September 17, 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, Garth McSweeney, Billy Davey, Denis Blais, George Larson, David Brenneman, Bruce Whettle, Gary Ginet, Xiaolan Ruan, Gasmend Berisha, Rob Gilmore and Kerri Oberhauser.

7:30pm – Commission Business:

DWhite/Tirone motioned to approve the 9/3 **minutes** with edits; motion passed unanimously.

DWhite/Tirone motioned to approve the Certificate of Compliance for 459 Mystic St.

The Commission reported on Town Day and comments/news received there.

7:45pm **Notice of Intent** – Algonquin gas line maintenance in Alewife Reservation

Mr. Blais presented the inspection work in two locations within 100 feet of Alewife Brook and in Riverfront Area, one in a wetland, the second near to the apartment complex on Arizona Terrace. The pipes will be inspected with “pig” devices.

The inspections should require that the excavations be left open for 3 to 4 days in each location. The wetland area excavated will be approximately 900 sf. They proposed stockpiling the wetland soil for reuse and the area will be reseeded with annual rye.

The construction permit from DCR was just received by the applicant and they will forward this to the Commission, detailing site control with fencing and covering stockpiles.

Ms. Ruan asked about the wooden rail fence at the location behind her house, behind Sunnyside Ave. The applicant responded that they would take down the wooden rail and replace it when they are done.

Mr. Tirone asked about the large 24 inch tree near to the Arizona Terrace work. The applicant responded that if the tree were damaged that they would plant a new one. The path in this location will be diverted temporarily around the work area. The path material will be reinstalled as per the specs from DCR.

Mr. Tirone suggested the use of New England Wetland Seed mix for the reseeded of the wetland area.

The applicant said that Bond Brothers were the contractors hired for this work.

DWhite/Connors motioned to close the hearing; motion passed unanimously.

Tirone/JWhite motioned to approve the project with three conditions: 1) replant a tree if 24 inch tree is damaged, 2) use NE Wetmix seed in the wetland, 3) cover the soil stockpile; motion passed unanimously.

8pm – **Notice of Intent**- 86 Coolidge Rd

Ms. Beckwith reported that the applicant requested a continuance to Oct. 1 at 8:15pm.

DWhite/JWhite motioned to continue the hearing to Oct. 1; motion passed unanimously.

8:30pm – **Discussion** – Across Arlington

Ms. Cowen discussed this new project idea with the Commission. Mr. White suggested that the Open Space Committee might like to foster this program, taking a lead role. Rest of the Commission agreed with Mr. White's suggestion.

Ms. Cowen will attend the next Open Space meeting. Ms. Beckwith will forward the draft map of walking routes to the Commission.

8:45pm – **Discussion** – Scout projects

Mr. McSweeney completed his stair project at Window on the Mystic. Mr. White inspected it and said it looked great. DWhite/Connors motioned to approve the signoff of the project; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Stevens signed the Eagle Scouts form; Mr. McSweeney will forward a copy to the Commission.

DWhite/Connors motioned to approve the granting of \$336.31 from the Arlington Stewardship Fund for this work; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Davey presented his proposed project for a loop path at the Window on the Mystic. This proposal also includes a small stair segment in the middle portion. Three saplings will be removed. Debris from the trail clearing will be left on the site, with the areas near the shoreline being cleared to the uphill side of the path. The stair design will be similar that just completed, but wider, and will be approximately 10 steps.

Tirone/DWhite motioned to approve this proposal with the additional information; motion passed unanimously. Mr. Stevens signed the Eagle Scout paperwork.

DWhite/Tirone motioned to approve a maximum grant of \$300 for this project from the Arlington Stewardship Fund; motion passed unanimously.

9pm - **Notice of Intent**- 4 Mystic Bank

Mr. Connors recused himself and left the meeting room.

The applicants submitted revised narrative and landscape plans.

The Town Engineer reviewed the access route and was satisfied with the measures to be taken to protect the right-of-way from excess damage during this work.

The contractor also guaranteed that they would inspect and provide replacement plantings for three growing seasons after the project is complete.

DWhite/Chapnik motioned to close the hearing; motion passed unanimously by the quorum for this project review: Mr. Nonni, Mr. Tirone, Ms. Chapnick, Mr. White and Ms. White.

Nonni/JWhite motioned to approve the project; motion passed unanimously by the foregoing quorum.

Mr. Connors returned to the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Corinna Beckwith
Commission Administrator