

Arlington Conservation Commission  
Minutes  
December 1, 2016

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 Chair Nathaniel Stevens, Catherine Garnett (Associate), Mike Nonni, Charles Tirone, Eileen Coleman (Associate), David White, and Janine White. Curt Connors and Susan Chapnick were not present. Also present were Bruce Whettle, Cheryl Miller, Duke Bitsko, Hillary Holmes, Brad Barber, Karen Grossman, Tom Hughes, Lee Silverstone, Carl Feynman, Paula Feynman, Jacob Friis, Richard Norcross, Colin Blair.

7:30pm **Forum** - Spy Pond Edge and Erosion Control Project - final design concept selection

Hillary Holmes and Duke Bitsko of Chester Engineering presented the Preferred Concept plans based on prior public meetings and other comments for the four project areas (Scannell Field shoreline, Spy Pond Park, Boys and Girls club shoreline and Spring Valley Rd). They reiterated the 8 goals for this feasibility phase of the work.

In the Scannell Field area, the last southern water access point was a concern to the Park Dept and the Police Department. The consultant was instructed to add this option in to the design and the final decision, whether to keep it, can be made later such as when construction plans are prepared.

In the Spy Pond Park area, two planting beds will have small footpaths added to small water access locations, most of the other shoreline zones will have no new paths established. Vegetation could be used more strategically to deter foot traffic in undesirable locations.

In the Boys and Girls Club area, additional plantings will be done, more stable paths established and stone access points.

In the Spring Valley Road location, a stormwater treatment basin will be constructed along with a kayak/canoe storage area and boat ramp.

Native plantings will be installed throughout the project along with coir logs at the shoreline, where needed.

DWhite/JWhite motioned to approve the proposed Preferred Concepts as discussed as well as authorizing Cathy Garnett to draft and finalize the CPA application for the implementation phase of this project; motion passed unanimously.

8:30pm **Notice of Intent** – 88 Coolidge Rd

The applicant requested a continuance for this project in order to have time to assemble

the additional information.

DWhite/JWhite motioned to approve the continuance to 12/15 at 7:45pm; motion passed unanimously.

8:45pm      **Notice of Intent - 18 Nourse St**

Mr. Butler presented revised drawings of the proposed 2-family townhouse for a lot with a single family house presently on it. Infiltration systems were proposed for the front underneath the driveways and the rear yard. An existing >12 inch DBH Katsura tree will be removed from the rear yard. Mr. Stevens noted that there are also some shrubs in the side yard along the western fence line toward the rear of the property that should remain.

The proposed design includes 4 new trees, smaller mature sized (river birch, liberty elm, red maple or pin oak), 2.5 – 3 caliper diameter upon installation, will be planted in the four corners of the lot. The stormwater systems were sized to take the 2 through 100 year flows, with an overflow to enter the Town's stormdrain system under the street. The Commission will ask for the design to be reviewed by the Engineering Dept.

A new panel fence is proposed for the perimeter of the lot.

Mr. Butler suggested that a root barrier should be installed between the newly installed trees and the infiltration chambers.

Mr. Tirone asked for a more comprehensive landscape design, possibly including native shrubs. Mr. Butler proposed along the rear line of the property.

Ms. White asked about the test pit information. It didn't appear that the depths were sufficient to describe the soils and groundwater elevations for the front infiltration system, underneath the driveway. Mr. Butler said that he would consult with the project engineer.

With the applicant's consent, Tirone/DWhite motioned to continue the hearing to 12/15 at 8pm, in order for the applicant to provide 1) revised landscaping plan, 2) root barrier specification, 3) test pit information, 4) stormwater review by Town Engineering Dept, 5) and determination whether proposed sump-pump tie-in to Town stormwater drainage system is permitted; motion passed unanimously.

9pm      **Notice of Intent – 40 Reed St**

Mr. Hughes presented the additional information requested by the Commission: 1) a detailed landscaping plan, by the homeowner, for the butterfly garden adjacent to the foundation and 2) a cross section and specification for the porous paver system for the driveway. Ms. Beckwith confirmed the wetland delineation boundary at her site walk on 11/18/16.

Ms. Beckwith drafted orders for the Commission to review. Mr. Tirone had two more edits to these to include monitoring of the landscaping for survivability of 80% for 2 years after planting, and requiring a landscaping professional or other professional deemed qualified by the Commission to review the project for compliance when requesting the Certificate of Compliance.

Mr. Hughes reminded the Commission that the raingarden has specifications for maintenance on the plan. That would be incorporated as a continuing/permanent condition.

JWhite/Nonni motioned to close the hearing; motion passed unanimously.

Tirone/Nonni motioned to approve the project and issue the Order of Conditions as amended; motion passed unanimously.

Tirone/Nonni motioned to close and lift the Enforcement Order on this property; motion passed unanimously.

Commission Business:

Ms. Beckwith asked the Commission if they would be likely to issue a Certificate of Compliance for the project at **71 Dothan Rd**, as the applicant had just completed the landscaping and invasive control work. The Commission would not issue an release until a few years of regrowth has taken place.

Ms. Garnett asked the Commission to approve the next invoice for the **Spy Pond project**. DWhite/Tirone motioned to approve the payment of \$14,959.25 for invoice #57561; motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Garnett asked the Commission for input on mitigation plantings for the Homewood Suites addition project. The applicant's landscape architect was asking for Commission approval of the mitigation planting on DCR land adjacent to the hotel. The Commission advised that it would have to wait until the spring to inspect any plantings, and, at any rate, the Commission does not approve individual plants; it will review the plants with all the work per the permit conditions.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Corinna Beckwith