

Brookline Conservation Commission Meeting

Tuesday, March 15, 2016 7:00 PM

Town Hall, School Committee Room

Commissioners Present: Marcus Quigley (Chair), Matthew Garvey, Gail Fenton, Roberta Schnoor, Pallavi Kalia Mande, Pamela Harvey,

Commissioners Absent: Deborah Myers, Werner Lohe, Marian Lazar

Staff Present: Tom Brady, Conservation Administrator, Brittany Bonney, Conservation Assistant

Guests Present: See attached.

AGENDA REVIEW/MINUTES

G. Fenton requested to add a vernal pool update to the Staff Update on the agenda.

G. Fenton moved to approve the minutes from 2/16/16. R. Schnoor seconded. All in favor.

CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE NOTICE OF INTENT UNDER THE BROOKLINE WETLANDS BY-LAW FOR 25 SEARS ROAD, LOT 17, TO CONSTRUCT A STORM WATER INFILTRATION BASIN, SUBMITTED BY APPLIED ECOLOGICAL SCIENCES ON BEHALF OF THEIR CLIENT ENGLISH ROSE REALTY TRUST C/O MICHAEL J. BURKIN

Brian Weiner, Dunn McKenzie, explained that they have provided the Commission with a full drainage report and stamped plans. They have addressed the Engineering Division's questions and comments. Engineering's questions were concerning TSS removal to which Dunn McKenzie explained that they have swales prior to catch basins and also have the detention basin itself; street sweeping will also be part of the Homeowner's Association's responsibilities. The Engineering Division also asked about the cross sections of the detention basin.

M. Burkin explained that they filed for a NPDES permit with the EPA on February 1st because they will eventually disturb over 1 acre. M. Quigley thanked the applicants and asked for a motion to close the hearing.

R. Schnoor moved to close the hearing. G. Fenton seconded. All in favor.

OPEN SPACE PLAN DISCUSSION

- The Commission discussed the subcommittees that were formed during the 2010 Open Space planning process. They agreed that a fourth subcommittee on Climate Change should be formed for the current process.
 - P. Harvey suggested leaving the Accessibility subcommittee idea up to the OSP representative from the Commission for the Disabled. She would also like to see an Eagle Scout project become available to make people more aware of the connection between public transit and open spaces. She also mentioned the new category of vehicles (motorized wheelchairs, etc.) and how they can be used on trails.
 - G. Fenton mentioned that there were many comments at the meetings about leaving nature be and preserving natural areas in parks (no mowing, no asphalt, etc.). She also suggested another subcommittee be devoted to this focus on native species and natural habitats for animals and humans.

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- T. Brady said ideally we would like to keep the number of subcommittees low because every meeting is managed on a staff level and has to be posted per the open meeting law. He also explained that greenways are multimodal; for wildlife, humans, canopy, and transportation purposes.

MUDDY RIVER UPDATE

- T. Brady said the river is flowing. The target for completion of Phase I is June 20th.
- There will be a 4 hour site visit for the Phase II design next week.
- The last brainstorming meeting concluded that the gravel roads which will be installed for construction access will clear a large portion of phragmites.
- The P&OS Division is moving forward with bank restoration on Brookline property.
- The ribbon cutting ceremony will be around June 20th.

STAFF UPDATE

- The Friends of Hall's Pond will have a 40th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, June 12th.
- The Friends of Hall's Pond Spring Community Day will be May 1st.
- T. Brady will be submitting a capital expense for replacing some of the boardwalks at Hall's Pond.
- T. Brady said the Sanctuary Signage will be going out to bid in the near future.
- T. Brady said that 88 Cottage Street continues to progress, blasting is occurring.
- **Issuance of the Order of Conditions for 25 Sears Road, BWB 15-08**
Commissioners reviewed a draft Order of Conditions. M. Garvey moved to issue the Order of Conditions for 25 Sears Rd. R. Schnoor seconded. All in favor.
- T. Brady explained that the Trustees of Sargent Pond have hired an owners' representative and have begun making plans to dredge the pond.
- T. Brady will meet with representatives of the Country Club in early April.
- **Certificate of Compliance for 280 Warren Street, DEP 120-149, BWB 14-02**
The Commission commented on the great work that has been done to the resource. G. Fenton moved to issue a Certificate of Compliance for 280 Warren St. M. Garvey seconded. All in favor.
- The CRWA clean-up event will be held on April 30th from 9am-12pm, they are always looking for volunteers.
- G. Fenton gave an update on vernal pools in Town. She explained that salamanders moved on Thursday night, which is weeks early. She asked the Commission to do 2 things; 1) listen for wood frogs during the afternoon on a warm day around Dale Street/Sears Road 2) look for egg masses in Dane Park and D. Blakely Hoar Sanctuary (gelatinous substance floating on the water) in and around March 24th. T. Brady also suggested looking at Amory Woods.

R. Schnoor moved to adjourn. G. Fenton seconded. All in favor.