



CITY OF MELROSE

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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Melrose Conservation Commission Minutes for October 19, 2017

Present: Susan Murphy, Michael Paiewonsky, Aaron Weieneth, Kate Hickey and Zachary Drench

Absent: Richard Doucette and Kevin Anderson

Ms. Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM.

Minutes:

Motion by Mr. Weieneth to approve the minutes from September 21, 2017. Ms. Hickey seconded the motion and it was voted 5-0 in favor.

Public Hearings:

Request for Determination of Applicability – Banks Place access road maintenance and repaving at the MBTA Oak Grove station.- Submitted by Nitsch Engineering, on behalf of MBTA. Jennifer Johnson and John Michalak from Nitsch Engineering and Ann Waisley from MBTA were present. Ryan Nikulak from Melrose Ped/Bike Committee, Paul Brodeur (MA State Representative) and Ryan O'Malley (Malden City Councilor) present from the public.

Ms. Waisley – The proposed project consists of reclamation and repair of the existing Banks Place Access road that spans portions of both Malden and Melrose. We intend to complete repairs before snowfall, binder course only before the winter snow. Feasibility study to be conducted during the winter for a potential future bike path. Ms. Johnson – An RDA has also been filed with the Malden Conservation Commission for the portion in Malden, meeting to be Tuesday (Oct.24). The MA DOT bridge will be the end of the maintenance work in Melrose, no work to be done on the bridge itself. Proposed work is to occur within the 200' riverfront area to Lower Spot Pond Brook and 100' buffer to Bank. A NOI will be filed in the Spring (2018) for improvements with study over this winter. Oak Grove parking lot will be the next phase of the project, MBTA land is likely the property line, not a right of way for banks place. No curbing present along the road shoulder. Separate future filing for potential bike lane pending MAPC study. Rep. Brodeur - Supports the repair work. Ryan O'Malley- Project will improve public access in both Malden in Melrose.

Motion by Ms. Hickey, seconded by Mr. Drench and voted 5-0 to Issue a Negative 2 Determination.

Discussion:

Melrose Master Plan Implementation timeline—Mr. Weieneth updated the Commission on the relevant sections for the Commission (see Implementation guide in file) **Open Space and recreation section:** Goal 1 (Strategy 1.3, 1.4), Goal 2 (Strategy 2.1, 2.3) Goal 3 (Strategy 3.1, 3.2) Goal 4 (Strategy 4.1, 4.2, 4.3). **Infrastructure and Facilities section:** Goal 1 (Strategy 1.1), Goal 2 (Strategy 2.4). **Transportation and Circulation section:** Goal 1 (Strategy 1.4).

Staff will ask about current integrated pest management practices and contracts from parks department.

Trail steward, adopt a trail program to be explored. No formal past stewardship program has ever existed. Staff will check with other towns that have one for examples on structure and implantation. Melrose Weekly News- potential press releases.

Other items for future consideration:

- Assess signs on existing trail network.
- Susan will check with EPIC for a copy of the Ell Pond Master plan.
- 604b study, locate copy for potential rain garden locations
- Accountability for Master plan, Mayor's office, Planning or other department?
- MS4 permit has been delayed

Water St- Lot line agreement should be recorded with deed, not the license. Language for agreement still being researched, item continued to next meeting.

Fall Trail Cleanup- Cleanup was successfully held on October 15, several stone fire pits/circles were observed, potentially need to be dispersed to discourage fires. Stolen Street sign and post discovered behind Hoover School Outdoor Classroom. Staff has contacted DPW to recover sign and collect trash that was removed. Next agenda to include item for trail map update and improvements.

Next Meeting:

The next scheduled meeting will be Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 7:30 PM.

Adjourn

At 9:00 PM Mr. Drench moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Weieneth and it was voted 5-0 in favor.

Approved

Date.

Pursuant to the 'Open Meeting Law, ' G.L. 39, 23B, the approval of these minutes by the Commission constitutes a certification of the date, time and place of the meeting, the members present and absent, and the actions taken at the meeting. Any other description of statements made by any person, or the summary of the discussion of any matter, is included for the purpose of context only, and no certification, express or implied, is made by the Commission as to the completeness or accuracy of such statements.