CITY OF MELROSE CONSERVATION COMMISSI
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Melrose Conservation Commission
Minutes for August 20, 2020

Present: Susan Murphy, Mike Paiewonsky, Aaron Weieneth and Paul Moore
Absent:Richard Doucette, Kate Hickey and Ryan Sloan
Staff present: Eric Devlin

Ms. Murphy opened the Remote public meeting at 7:35pm and read the Remote meeting statement below.
Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Melrose Conservation Commission will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the City of Melrose's website, at www.cityofmelrose.org. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, or in the event that we are unable to do so, we will post on the mmtv3.org website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

All Votes will be recorded via roll call votes. Extension to permitting deadlines applicable to Commission proceedings pursuant to Chapter 53 of the Acts of 2020. Deadlines extended out 45 days after conclusion of the State of Emergency.

Minutes-

Motion by Mr. Moore to approve the minutes from July 16, 2020, as written. Mr. Paiewonsky seconded the motion.

Roll Call vote: Paul Moore – yes, Susan Murphy – yes, Michael Paiewonsky – yes , Aaron Weieneth – yes
4-0 in favor.

Discussion:

Request for Certificate of Compliance 217-25 125 Sycamore Rd - Michael Juliano, Eaglebrook Engineering & Survey and Michael Turner (applicant) were present.

Mr. Juliano referenced the letter, owner comment letter and photos that were prepared for this request. Order of Conditions was issued in 1982, property was sold without Certificate of Compliance being sought. Current owner has owned the property since 1994, never was aware of outstanding Order of Conditions. Some deviations from plan noted in the letter. The yard is well vegetated and stable, no exterior improvements since 1994 other than 4 trees that were planted along the rear of the property.
Staff mentioned that the only issue observed at the site visit was that there was a shed at the rear of the property that was not on the plan. Shed appears to be very close to the resource area, wet vegetation growing right up to the back of the shed. Shed looks like it has been there for a long time, new owners shall be aware that any new work would require a filing.

Motion by Ms. Murphy to issue a Certificate of Compliance to 125 Sycamore rd. Mr. Weieneth seconded.

Roll Call vote: Paul Moore – yes, Susan Murphy – yes, Michael Paiewonsky – yes, Aaron Weieneth – yes
4-0 in favor.

Ell Pond Water Chestnut – Combination of herbicide and hand pulling approach for next year. This year, the Commission conducted a volunteer water chestnut pulling effort late July to early August.. About 10 people for an average of 3 hours each. Staff requested a mechanical harvester quote as a treatment option. Herbicide treatment option quoted for one area of the pond (western cove). Range of options available, considerable cost because it will be a yearly requirement for about 10 years and would need to be funded for that time period. Hand pulling is very labor intensive, would need lots of people to be effective/realistic. Herbicide quote received for area by the DCR pool, volunteer hand pull possible for smaller area over by the dog park/lynn fells parkway. Present range of options for long term plan at a future date.

New/Old Business-
Land Donation - Staff support letter suggested to City Council. Commission is interested in the parcel.

Procedure for member comment letters discussed.

The next scheduled meeting will be Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 7:30 PM.

Motion by Ms. Murphy to adjourn. Mr. Paiewonsky seconded the motion and it was voted 4-0 in favor.

Adjourn
8:05M adjourn

_____ _____
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.