



CITY OF MELROSE

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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Melrose Conservation Commission Minutes for July 15, 2021

Present: Richard Doucette, Ryan Sloan, Kate Hickey, Eugenia Gibbons, Michael Paiewonsky* (left at point indicated), Paul Moore and Jason Jancaitis

Absent:

Staff present: Eric Devlin

Mr. Doucette opened the Remote public meeting at 7:30pm and read the remote meeting notice. All members participated remotely.

Minutes-

June 24, 2021 meeting minutes

Motion by Mr. Doucette to approve minutes from June 24, 2021, as written. Second by Mr. Paiewonsky. Mr. Moore and Ms. Gibbons abstained.

Roll Call vote June 24, 2021 minutes: Richard Doucette – yes, Eugenia Gibbons- abstain, Kate Hickey- yes, Jason Jancaitis – yes, Paul Moore – abstain, Michael Paiewonsky- yes and Ryan Sloan- yes
5-0 in favor.

Public Hearing:

130 Penny Road- Kathleen Quinlan and William Quinlan present. Request for Determination of Applicability filed after previous discussion.
Above ground pool proposed in existing lawn area. Pool to be partially set into the ground, approx. 1 foot difference from far end of the proposed pool to the close end. 58 feet from wetland edge on side toward the shed and 61' from wetland edge on back side. Mr. Quinlan- Soil to be removed from the driveway side with an excavator. Material will be removed and pool underlayment will be play sand 15'x aboveground pool to be installed. Digging 18" deep at the back corner towards street to level pool. 12" wide skirt of gravel around perimeter of proposed pool.

Motion by Mr. Doucette to close the hearing and issue a negative 3 determination of applicability. Seconded by Ms. Gibbons.

Roll Call vote: Richard Doucette – yes, Eugenia Gibbons- yes, Kate Hickey- yes, Jason Jancaitis – yes, Paul Moore – yes, Michael Paiewonsky- yes and Ryan Sloan- yes
7-0 in favor.

17 Burnett Street- Order of Conditions. Permit is valid for 3 years from date of issuance, written copy of approval from City Engineer is required for stormwater connection portion.

Staff read off draft of special condition for the stormwater conditional approval.

This Order of Conditions is only approving the invasive species removal and restoration portion of this project. Conditional approval is granted for the stormwater connection portion pending final approval by the Melrose City Engineer. A written copy of City Engineer approval shall be submitted to the Melrose Conservation Commission for record.

Motion by Mr. Doucette to issue a Standard Order of Conditions with special conditions for storm drain connection, as written by staff. Seconded by Mr. Sloan. Mr. Moore abstained.

Roll Call vote: Richard Doucette – yes, Eugenia Gibbons- yes, Kate Hickey- yes, Jason Jancaitis – yes, Paul Moore – Abstain, Michael Paiewonsky- yes and Ryan Sloan- yes 6-0 in favor. Mr. Moore Abatained.

36 Slayton Road – Peter Ogren, Libby Wallace and Robert Bell were present. Site visit occurred this week and hearing was opened at last meeting. Ms. Wallace shared a copy of the plan and described the property. 12 foot wide driveway for a single family home with stormwater infiltration on site. Existing driveway with wetland area in the center. Zone A floodplain area and proposed driveway to be paved with pervious pavement. Excavation proposed to remove site debris. Resource areas on the site include BVW, Bank along intermittent stream and flood plain. Culvert pipe through existing driveway is somewhat functioning, further investigation required. No revisions to plan prepared yet, April dated plan is latest version/current plan.

Mr. Doucette- Culvert is not obvious on the site. Pervious pavement is of little use/value. Appears to have been requirement of previous permit.

Mr. Paiewonsky- Center line stakes in the driveway? Culvert appeared to be crushed at site visit and would likely need to be replaced.

Ms. Wallace- Centerline of driveway was staked. A colorized version of the plan was shown that better defined the different resource areas. Solid blue lines depicted wetland bank along streams, dotted lines were flood plain boundary and green lines were BVW.

Ms. Hickey- Concern with driveway creep from construction vehicles. Question on post construction wetland impact recovery.

Ms. Wallace- Area to be seeded with wetland seed mix for temporary disturbance.

Mr. Sloan- Large trees along driveway edge, intent to remove them or keep them?

Ms. Wallace- Detail on plan, 12' wide paved driveway with additional 4' wide on left side and 2' wide on right side. 18' total width for driveway area. Replication plan accounts for additional disturbance.

Mr. Sloan and Mr. Moore raised concerns with wetland area on both sides of the proposed driveway. How will water get from wetland on opposite side of the proposed driveway? Driveway bisects the existing wetland.

Mr. Paiewonsky- Construction impacts likely to exceed impact specified on plans.

Ms. Wallace- Water to continue to flow over driveway. Paved surface to be at similar grades to existing and culvert area. Plans meet state regulations. Possible to expand replication area or add a second replication area on the opposite side of the proposed driveway.

Ms. Hicky- Laurel street access to site possible?

Mr. Moore- Ice coverage and salt usage concern on the long stretch of driveway with water flow.

Mr. Doucette- Possible to raise driveway elevation to address? De-watering for work on site and methods?

Mr. Bell- Agreement contract between the City and Confalone family referenced. Value of property has increased

Staff will contact City Solicitor's office for further details.

Mr. Ogren- Flood elevation, zone A so BFE unknown. The existing driveway area does flood, unknown how frequently it floods. Cofferdam in trench proposed and de-water through pump to silt bag.

Mr. Doucette- Revised plan items requested. Larger replication area to account for additional disturbance, flood storage volume lost, culvert functionality/condition.

Possible second culvert, data sheets for wetland delineation.

Mr. Ogren- House on the site burned down at some point in the 1970s, Mr. Bell confirmed it was built in the 70's.

Several members are not in the quorum for this item, discussion ensued whether applicant shall re-advertise and re-notify abutters. This will establish a new quorum for the meetings going forward.

Motion by Mr. Doucette to Continue to the August 19 meeting. Second by Mr. Paiewonsky.

Roll Call vote: Richard Doucette – yes, Eugenia Gibbons- yes, Kate Hickey- yes, Jason Jancaitis –yes, Paul Moore – yes, Michael Paiewonsky- yes and Ryan Sloan- yes
7-0 in favor

*Mr. Paiewonsky had to leave the meeting at this point.

Discussion:

Invoices:

Solitude Lake Management – Task 1 invoice \$250 and Massachusetts Society of Conservation Professionals (MSMCP) FY22 Annual member dues - \$20.00.

Motion by Mr. Doucette to approve the invoices for both the Solitude task 1 and the MSMSP member dues. Mr. Sloan seconded the motion.

Roll Call vote: Richard Doucette – yes, Eugenia Gibbons- yes, Kate Hickey- yes, Jason Jancaitis –yes, Paul Moore – yes, Michael Paiewonsky- absent and Ryan Sloan- yes
6-0 in favor

Commission chair - role was discussed since the current chair is moving out of state. Mr. Paiewonsky was nominated to be the chair for the next meeting. Possible rotating chair role for other items.

Parks update- Test pits at Ell Pond park were recently excavated.

Treasurer update- Process to increase staff hours in almost in place. Getting closer to be able to add additional hours.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 7:30 PM.

Motion by Ms. Hickey to adjourn. Ms. Gibbons seconded the motion and it was voted 6-0 in favor.

Adjourn

9:11PM 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.