



CITY OF MELROSE

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Melrose Conservation
Commission

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Melrose Conservation Commission Minutes for April 17, 2014

Present: Susan Murphy, Richard Doucette, Kevin Anderson, and Erin Heacock
Absent: Aaron Weieneth and Kate Hickey

Ms. Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

Public Hearings

1 Patriot Way – Request for Determination, Reconfigure stormwater detention basin

Brian Sullivan, from Bayside Engineering and Mr. Vogel, the homeowner, were present for the hearing. Mr. Sullivan said he did a hydraulic analysis of the system. They were looking at doing a rain garden within the existing detention basin, but now are proposing new storage capacity in underground tanks. The design calls for removal of 1' of material to be replaced with clean material within the basin. Mr. Sullivan said he didn't do test pits, but feels that because that was where the detention basin was located it should work in that location. The developer is working on constructing the third house in the subdivision now and they plan to wait until that construction ends to begin this work. Mr. Sullivan explained that at elevation 115.7 the basin will start to overflow to the other side of the street. He said that this underground storage should stop that overflow. There was some discussion as to whether the Homeowner's Association is responsible for the detention basin as it says in the deed, but Mr. Vogel's deed says that the owner of the house that the basin is located within has responsibility. Mr. Sullivan said that Mr. Vogel is taking responsibility. Mr. Street, the City Engineer, was also present. He has no issues with Mr. Vogel taking responsibility of the detention basin and he has no issues with the underground storage design.

The O & M report says that the owner is responsible for manifold inspection ports and he is to report any materials or issues to the City Engineer. Mr. Sullivan said that, mostly, fines clog up the system. Mr. Sullivan feels that the silt will stay in the first chamber and he said, if needed, that one chamber could be replaced. Mr. Vogel said he has never seen water in the detention basin higher than the top of the outlet pipe. The rip rap coming down Patriot Way in front of Mr. Vogel's house will be removed and there will be a direct underground line from the top catch basin to the underground storage.

Mr. Doucette moved to close the Public Hearing and issue a Negative 3 Determination. Mr.

Anderson seconded the motion; and it was unanimously voted in favor.

1 Indian Hill Lane – 217-xxxx Replace existing footings for a new Sunroom

Steve Fogarty, the contractor, was present for the homeowners. Mr. Fogarty explained to members that the existing deck was built on 8" footings. The building code calls for 12" footings. Mr. Fogarty said all the posts will be located behind the big rock that sits between the house and the pond. All work will be dug by hand. There was some discussion about the previous SOC/AOC issued by MassDEP. There doesn't appear to be a Certificate of Compliance issued from the State yet. Mr. Doucette asked that all concrete and construction debris be removed off site.

Mr. Anderson moved to close the Public Hearing. Ms. Heacock seconded the motion; and it was voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Anderson moved to issue an Order of Conditions with the additional conditions that the Conservation office be notified when work is starting, and all footing concrete and construction material be removed off site. Ms. Heacock seconded the motion; and it was voted unanimously in favor.

Conant Park field

Mr. Street, City Engineer, came before the Commission to request some help in alleviating the flooding in the back of the field behind the ball field. The site is on the border of Stoneham and there is a stream that outlines the field. Neighbors in the area have told Mr. Street that the field is wetter this year than in previous years. The City, without a permit, removed the old basketball court that was in that field a few months back and the area is a mess now. Mr. Street said he had no idea the work was done. From the time that he first went out to the site until today, he has noticed that the field has dried out some. For that reason, he is asking the Commission if he might just put a line of haybales along the baseball outfield to prevent the water from getting onto the field and possibly using a pump to de-water. In the future, the City might propose a detention basin or plantings. Mr. Street followed the stream further back toward Stoneham and discovered a tree upstream blocking and diverting the flow of the stream to the left to head up toward the old basketball court area instead of to the right where it would naturally go. Ms. Murphy went out to the site with Mr. Street and saw that it would not be an easy task to get the tree out so instead, advised him to have someone pull the leaf litter out from under the tree to increase the flow and relieve the blockage. Mr. Street advised members that the area is not indicated as a floodplain on the FEMA maps. It was decided to place haybales around the disturbed area where the basketball court was removed for now. Later, when the area dries out, a restoration to that area will require a Request for Determination.

22 Leonard Rd.

The neighbor to 22 Leonard Rd called about limbs from the trees on the Conservation property falling onto her cars next door. Ms. Morgan will have a survey done on the property to delineate where the neighbor can trim the branches on her property.

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Minutes

Ms. Heacock moved to approve the Minutes of March 27, 2014. Mr. Doucette seconded the motion; and it was unanimously voted in favor.

The next Conservation meeting will be May 1, 2014.

Adjourn

Mr. Anderson moved to adjourn at 9:00 pm, seconded by Mr. Doucette, and voted unanimously in favor.

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.