

Melrose Conservation Commission
Minutes for May 19, 2011

Present: Susan Murphy, Kevin Anderson, Kate Hickey, Joe Nerden and Richard Doucette
Absent: Steve Locke

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

Discussion

71 Cranmore Lane aka Off Carlida & Cranmore

Mr. and Mrs. Corso were present and presented an as-built plan showing the house that was actually built which was not as wide but deeper than the one proposed. Along with bringing the driveway along the side of the house and around back, they have built a deck off the back of the house which cantilevers over the 20' no build. Mr. Corso said that he is considering building a one car garage at the end of the pavement to the back right corner of his lot. Mr. Corso was advised that if he wants to file a Notice of Intent to encompass the driveway, deck and new garage he can do that. If, however, he decides that he isn't going to file for the additional work, he has to remove the pavement. Mr. Corso said he only put down a binder coat and would remove the driveway if he needed to. Ms. Murphy asked about the drainage on the site and said there are many concerned neighbors in that area and the Commission may not look favorably on that much impervious surface. She advised him to consider using pavers in lieu of the pavement. Mr. Doucette said he would want a decision from the homeowners because he would want the pavement removed as soon as possible. Mr. and Mrs. Corso agreed to come back and advise the Commission of their decision at their June 16th meeting.

Massachusetts Bay Community Railroad Right-of-Way – RDA

Kyle Fair, from TEC Associates, was present for the applicant, Massachusetts Bay Community Railroad. Mr. Fair explained the procedures taken when chemically treating invasive plants adjacent to the right-of-way. He said the markings are still present in the field. They identify wetland zones near the work. They spray 20' from the centerline and do the entire right-of-way. The chemicals used in sensitive areas are approved by DEP. They do some hand spraying in spot locations. Someone in the truck is reading maps along the way. He said RWC is doing the application. Mr. Nerden questioned if they have ever had an issue with the spray migrating. Mr. Fair said the chemical is essentially like round up. Mr. Doucette said it binds to soils. Mr. Fair said there are really no changes in areas or procedure from the old filings. He said the markings will be brightened up.

Mr. Doucette moved to issue a Negative 5 Determination, with the exemptions to be listed. Mr. Nerden seconded the motion; and it was voted unanimously in favor.

Eastside Interceptor (217-0183)

The first part of the two projects proposed at the Middle/High School field is completed. The Revoli Construction Co. has finished relocating the sewer line. The pumping is done and the siltation basin has been taken down. There are still two pumps going at Tremont Street. They need five consecutive dry days to tie into the MWRA system. The area around the detention area is to be enlarged, and therefore, the new contractor will take over the area that was under the jurisdiction of Revoli Construction. The DPW Dept. requested that they get some kind of sign off/partial Certificate of Compliance so that Revoli will no longer be held responsible for the area. Members agreed to inspect the site and if no issues are evident, agree to a letter saying that the site is in compliance so that when the new contractor starts working on the field they will take on responsibility of the site. Mr. Nerden said that the drains that flow out from any catch basins should be checked.

118 Sycamore Road – willow trees

The owner requested to take down two Willow trees, one in his back yard and one in his Uncle's yard next door. Mr. Doucette visited the site and spoke with Mr. Belmonte the owner. Mr. Belmonte's shed sits in the middle of three Willow trees and a Poplar tree. Mr. Belmonte submitted a letter from his tree cutter, who believed one of the trees to be dead. Large branches have been falling off the Willow and he feels it is a danger. Mr. Doucette didn't think that the trees were dead, but merely demonstrating the characteristics of large Willows. Mr. Doucette suggested to the Commission that Mr. Belmonte be allowed to remove the two trees, but for every tree he cuts down, he should plant two Willows in their place. Mr. Belmonte will be sent a letter approving the removal of the two trees, but that he should replace two for each one, that he should not remove the Poplar, to stop dumping grass clippings in the back yard and should he want to do any future work, he should contact the Conservation office.

Minutes

Mr. Doucette moved to approve the minutes of April 7, 2011. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously in favor.

Adjourn

Mr. Nerden moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM, seconded by Mr. Anderson; and voted unanimously in favor.