

Melrose Conservation Commission
Minutes for June 16, 2011

Present: Susan Murphy, Richard Doucette, Joe Nerden and Kevin Anderson (8:25)

Absent: Kate Hickey and Steve Locke

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

Discussion

71 Cranmore Lane aka Off Carlida & Cranmore (DEP# 217-0166)

Mr. and Mrs. Corso were present. Mr. Corso advised members that he does plan to construct a one car garage and Ed Farrell will be doing the engineering. He said he plans to make the driveway smaller in the new plan. He requested time to get his plan together and would like at least two months time. Mr. Doucette said he would rather have the filing made in July than September. Mr. Nerden and Ms. Murphy said they would want to give enough time so that the neighbors can be notified. There was some discussion as to what type of filing would be required for the new work. Members felt it would be considered a major modification or an Amendment to the Order of Conditions, which is due to expire June 26, 2008, but would be extended under the Permit Extension Act. Kathy will send the Corso's a letter advising them what steps to take for filing for an Amendment and to file for the September 15th meeting.

Boardman Ave. (DEP# 217-0171)

Mr. and Mrs. Bowman, Attorney Lou Izzi, and John Tilton, from Hayes Engineering, were present. At a visit to the property on June 9th, Kathy inspected the first house into the subdivision being built and purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Bowman. While at the site, Kathy noted that the silt fence was in need of repair, they were attempting to install roof drainage to empty out into the wetland and the grading was different than what was on the approved plan. The grading on the site was altered to accommodate a walk out basement and a stone retaining wall was installed along the silt fence line. The roof drainage was going through the new wall. Also the 15' access to the back detention pond looked very tight.

In response to an email from Kathy to Attorney Izzi regarding the final O & M plan due July 2010, Attorney Izzi advised the Commission of his meetings with the City. He said that he had met with the City last summer, but then it was put on the back burner. He said dialog has started again and they hope to have the O & M wrapped up soon.

Ms. Murphy noted that the access easement is tight and questioned the distance from the edge of wetlands to the new stone retaining wall. Mr. Tilton said that the new house is 1400 s.f. larger and turns in an angle. The new stone wall runs along the silt fence. The approved plans show the silt fence to be 20' off the "house box" approved. Mr. Tilton said the foundation of the built house is 12' to the wall. Mr. Tilton said it may be tight but he still feels that an excavator (10'

wide) or a front end loader (8' wide) would have enough room to get in to access the back detention pond. Mr. Tilton said that the house was moved 10' further back. The watershed is still the same and consistent with the watershed map. It was determined that the edge of the new wall is at the 15' no disturb. Members were unsure as to whether the stone wall could be considered a structure that would be within the 20' no construct buffer. There was some discussion about the new drainage pipes that run under the driveway and through the back yard and whether there is sufficient material above it that it won't be damage when vehicles drive over it. Mr. Bowman said there is 2' of material over the drainage pipe. Mr. Tilton suggested sloping moss or grass over the rock wall.

Mr. Bowman said there is a lot of ledge in the area and he was looking to put three pipes into an exterior drainage system that would go into a T80 product by Cul tec. He said the front of the house drains into the street. Mr. Tilton suggested that the pipes go into a plunge pool or a spread of rocks at the edge of the wetland. Mr. Bowman said that the silt fence has been restored.

Mr. Nerden said he would like it if the access were able to accommodate bigger trucks and would like to see an O & M plan and a landscaping plan for the easement. Members discussed whether the applicant should request a minor modification for stormwater calculations. Attorney Izzi said the original stormwater calculations were based on the maximum square footage house, which was a 4,000 s.f. house. Mr. Bowman's house is 3,900 s.f. Members asked the applicant to submit a revised plan showing the current house dimensions, new elevations, stone retaining wall, 15' access way, 15' & 20' buffers. The applicant should also submit a letter stating the changes made from the approved plan and what the stormwater calculations are now. The stone retaining wall can stay but the Commission would be in favor of more room being gained along the easement. Ms. Murphy said that the 15' no disturb should not be breeched. The applicant is to come back in July with the requested items.

77 Swains Pond Ave. (Enforcement Order)

A report was received from Leah Basbanes, Mr. Hancock's wetland consultant, stating that the restoration plantings have been installed, listing the plants installed and that the area has been stabilized. All that remains is a fall follow up and then the matter will be settled.

Aquatic Control Contract FY2012

Under the FY2012 the issues at Ell Pond and Swains Pond will be addressed. The 2011 contract will be paid out in FY2011 and members can decide if they want to overlap contract years in the spring.

Mr. Nerden moved to approve expenditures for FY2012 for all the ponds we plan to do work on as outlined in the attached contracts. Mr. Doucette seconded the motion, and it was voted unanimously in favor.

Invoices

A bill was received from Aquatic Control for \$5115.00, for Sonar Treatment performed on 5/27/11 at Towners Pond. This bill represents 50% of the bill owed under the FY2011 contract.

Mr. Nerden moved to approve and pay the invoice from Aquatic Control in the amount of \$5115.00. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion, and it was voted unanimously in favor.

Training - Kathy was asked to see if a class on Wetland Plant Identification could be arranged.

Mapping – Jane in OPCD has wetland maps ready to be printed, but the Commission would need to pay for printing. Members questioned why the maps couldn't be printed in house and indicated they would be willing to pay for ink. Kathy will talk with Jane.

Minutes

Mr. Doucette moved to approve the minutes of May 19, 2011. Mr. Nerden seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Doucette moved to approve the minutes of January 20, 2011. Ms. Murphy seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously in favor.

Signs – After some discussion members decided to concentrate on signs for conservation land. They decided to use the style and size of the "Adopt a Site" sign. The sign should have white lettering and say Melrose Conservation Land. It will be a digital plaque with a gold tree symbol on it. The background will be brown with a white border. Kathy will get a breakdown for the sticker, the aluminum blank backing, and the exterior wood and a cost if they were to put it all together.

Adjourn

Mr. Nerden moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 PM, seconded by Mr. Anderson; and voted unanimously in favor.