

Melrose Conservation Commission
Minutes for September 1, 2011

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

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

Discussion

7 Cedarwood Lane

Mark Slegar, from Alan Engineering and the homeowner, Robert McConaghy, were present. Mr. Slegar said that he wasn't involved in the construction and an independent contractor flagged the property. When he was asked to do an as-built he notice that the flagging was not the same as proposed. He said that there was a lot of trash that was removed near the garage and house and while removing the trash the silt fence was moved. Mr. Doucette and Ms. Murphy visited the site and observed that the 15' no disturb was encroached and thought there was work done within the wetlands. Ms. Murphy suggested that the lawn be cut back and the wall pulled back to the 15' no disturb and then the area between be restored and stabilized with a seed mix. Mr. Nerden noted that work has encroached on adjacent City property Mr. McConaghy said that he is afraid that his pavers within the driveway will be damaged if big machinery were to be brought in. There was some discussion as to how big a machine would be needed.

There was a consensus of members that the owner could let the elevations remain up to the 20' no construct limit, but past that, the fill needs to be removed. Mr. Doucette said that the area nearing flags 1-6 is problematic. The garage was originally immediately adjacent to the wetlands, but after removal of the garage, the work was to be pulled back. The work done around the old garage is actually on his neighbor's property, along with the retaining wall installed to stabilize the area. Mr. McConaghy said that the rip rap wall was installed on neighbor's property after the garage was taken down and he gave his permission to clean up the area and do the work. Mr. Nerden suggested issuing an Enforcement Order to move the wall back to the haybale line as outlined on the original plan and restore the area. He would like the fill removed back to 20' from the edge of the wetlands. Mr. Doucette suggested 15' and noted that the work should be brought back off of City property.

Mr. Nerden moved that an Enforcement Order be issued with a cover letter saying that all fill and wall material be pulled back between wetland flags 2 and 5 to the 20' no construction and the wetlands restored with a wetland mix or plants. Also the area between 20 and the lawn be stabilized with vegetation. Mr. Doucette seconded the motion; and it was voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. McConaghy was asked to come back to the Commission by the first meeting in October,

2011, to report on the status of the restoration. He was also asked to set a target date for completion of the work for the end of the year.

Erin Heacock is looking to join the Commission and was advised to contact the Mayor's office and have them put her through.

Other Business

Wind Turbine at Mt. Hood

Ms. Murphy advised members that Mt. Hood is looking to put a wind turbine near the driving range. The land is under Article 97 and any land under Article 97 requires a unanimous vote of the Conservation Commission in support of any project.

Mr. Doucette moved to issue a letter in support of a feasibility study at Mt. Hood. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion, and it was voted unanimously in favor.

Adjourn

Mr. Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM, seconded by Mr. Nerden; and voted unanimously in favor.