Melrose Conservation Commission

Minutes for March 18, 2010

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

Invoices

Mr. Nerden moved, seconded by Mr. Anderson, to approve a warrant for $125.00 for recording the deed for 36 Swains Pond Ave with the registry of deeds. Voted: unanimously in favor.

Minutes

Mr. Doucette moved to approve the minutes for February 4, 2010, as amended. Mrs. Hickey seconded the motion. Voted: unanimously in favor.

Conservation Signs

Mr. Doucette provided members with a diagram for 2' x 8' wood conservation signs to be posted at various sites around town. Mr. Nerden talked with Mr. Scenna, in DPW, and showed members copies of samples of what the town currently uses for signs. There was some discussion about what to do with the current signs in town, replace them, cover the current signs with new signs. They also talked about adapting the current wooden signs and adding a part at the bottom to add a trail map of the area it is located in. Smaller sized signs could be put on individual conservation lots to inform the public of Commission owned parcels. Mr. Nerden will get in touch with vendors to ask for more details.

Towners Pond

The asphalt curbing along the area where the hydro-raking equipment accessed into the pond is all broken up and silt is running down into the pond. DPW has agreed to install hay bales and will loam and seed to stabilize the area. Future access into the pond should take this into consideration.

Flagg Acres Parking Lot

The lot measures 55' x 35' and the plan is to remove 2' of existing material and add 2' of crushed stone or recycled bituminous pavement. Mr. Nerden volunteered to contact some vendors for availability and prices on crushed stone and recycled products.

Access from the Flagg Acres parking lot to the Knox trails across the street was discussed. After being out at the site, some members felt that construction would be better from the house side

of Swains Pond Ave. and that the trail should follow along the house side before crossing the street to the Knox Trailhead. An email message will be sent out to the Friends of the Conservation Commission group asking for help from a landscape architect to give some guidance to address access and trail issues at the Towners Pond access area off of Swains Pond Ave.

Mr. Nerden showed the pictures he had taken at Mt. Hood and the potential vernal pool off the 17th hole.

Mrs. Hickey is going to update and correct the trail map for typos and errata so that more can be made. Some discussion took place regarding the next volume upgrade of the map.

A site visit is set to meet at the Mt. Hood tot spot, on Saturday, at 2:00pm to walk the trails.

Members discussed the studies being done for potential vernal pools and trails for the proposed new athletic field at Mt. Hood. There was some debate on when the Commission should take a stand on the proposal and how much they can advise. Chairperson Murphy to follow up.

Adjourn

Mr. Doucette moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 PM, seconded by Mrs. Hickey, and voted unanimously in favor.

Approved _____ Dated _____