

Brookline Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 7:00 PM
Zoom Virtual Conference

Commissioners Present: Marcus Quigley (Chair), Roberta Schnoor (Vice Chair), Werner Lohe, Pamela Harvey, Pallavi Kalia Mande, Marian Lazar (Associate)

Commissioners Absent: Benjamin Wish

Staff Present: Tom Brady (Conservation Administrator), Katie Weatherseed (Conservation Assistant)

Guests: See attached.

AGENDA REVIEW/MINUTES

M. Quigley opened the meeting. The Commissioners reviewed the minutes from September 22, 2020.

R. Schnoor made a motion to approve the minutes from September 22, 2020 with minor amendments. P. K. Mande seconded. All in favor.

CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE NOTICE OF INTENT FOR THE EDITH C. BAKER SCHOOL TENNIS COURTS (BEVERLY ROAD)

T. Brady stated that the applicant has asked for a continuance to December 1, 2020.

P. Harvey made a motion to continue the hearing to December 1, 2020 at 7:05 PM. W. Lohe seconded. All in favor.

MUDDY RIVER UPDATE

T. Brady stated that work is underway and approximately 400 cubic yards of material have been moved to date. He noted that there is additional testing taking place in area 1 as the footprint of the proposed dredging has been modified in response to concerns about stability in the area of the Jamaica Way on-ramp. P. K. Mande asked if the contractor is the same company that was used for Phase 1. T. Brady confirmed that it is the same company.

STAFF UPDATE

T. Brady stated that there was heavy rain last night, and so he has been checking on erosion controls for ongoing projects across Town. He noted that a significant windstorm came through Town, which caused some damage to Brookline's sanctuaries, but has been addressed.

T. Brady stated that The Country Club has preparations underway for the U.S. Open.

T. Brady stated that he and R. Schnoor performed a site inspection at 150 Woodland Road to review the wetland replication planting. He added that it appears as though the density and locations of plantings are appropriate.

T. Brady informed the Commission that Bruce Wolf, a long-term active member of the Friends of Hall's Pond, has passed away. Frank Caro, who was their President, has also sadly passed away. P. Harvey asked that T. Brady pass along the Commission's condolences.

- **Issuance of Order of Conditions for 150 Woodland Road**

T. Brady stated that his office has drafted a set of special conditions for the Order. In regards to preconstruction requirements, the applicant is required to submit a final set of construction documents. T. Brady stated that he and R. Schnoor looked at the proposed site while visiting the wetland replication area. R. Schnoor said that she found it useful to see the area, noting that she was previously concerned about the number of trees that would need to be removed as part of the project. During the visit, she confirmed that two trees would need to be removed as part of the proposed work, and there is a significant amount of ledge that constrains where a cul-de-sac can be placed. She believes that the proposed location is the most appropriate for the proposed driveway improvements.

T. Brady stated that DEP has not yet received the filing fee from the applicant. He asked if the Commission would consider voting to issue the Order, if they feel it's appropriate, and the Conservation office will hold the Order in advance until DEP issues a file number.

P. Harvey made a motion to issue the Order of Conditions for 150 Woodland Road, as drafted. W. Lohe seconded. All in favor.

T. Brady clarified that he will hold the Order, and seek signatures from the Commission once DEP issues a file number.

P. K. Mande stated that the Charles River Watershed Association is actively seeking input and support from stakeholders for an EPA effort to protect the Charles River by regulating large contributors to stormwater pollution. She stated that the City of Cambridge is the first municipality to pass a formal resolution in support of the effort. P. K. Mande stated that the resolution is essentially a tool wherein the EPA can directly permit any development that has impervious cover of an acre or more, thereby ensuring that municipalities do not have to bear the burden of private institutions or commercial development, which contribute to the stormwater runoff and phosphorus reduction goals for the municipality. She stated that this effort would put the burden on the discharger, instead of the town, for phosphorus reductions.

M. Quigley inquired what the process would look like to support this effort. T. Brady stated that it would need to begin with the Director of Water and Sewer, then the Commissioner of Public Works, and go from there. R. Schnoor inquired which sites would be affected in Brookline. M. Quigley stated that it would be any site with one acre or more of impervious surfaces. P. K. Mande added that this would mainly target large commercial properties, institutional properties, parking lots, and private schools.

R. Schnoor asked if we could identify on a map where would be affected. T. Brady stated that the Water and Sewer Division would likely have a good idea of their major

contributors. P. Harvey stated that she thinks it would be great to have this Brookline-specific information. P. K. Mande stated that the EPA is not making any immediate decisions, and the CRWA is just trying to garner as much support as possible at this time. M. Quigley stated that he thinks a motion should be made.

R. Schnoor endorsed the idea of engaging in discussion with the Division of Water and Sewer for the purpose of garnering support for this resolution, to ultimately issue a formal resolution of support for the proposed matter concerning the regulation of large contributors to stormwater pollution. P. Harvey seconded. All in favor.

ADJOURN

P. Harvey made a motion to adjourn. P. K. Mande seconded. All in favor.

Minutes prepared by K. Weatherseed