



City of Cambridge Conservation Commission

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Jennifer Letourneau, Director

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Public Meeting – Monday, February 11, 2018 at 7:00PM 147 Hampshire Street, Main Conference Room

MEETING MINUTES

The following meeting minutes were taken by Tracy Dwyer and are respectfully submitted.

Present Commission Members: Purvi Patel (Chair), Kaki Martin, Elysse Magnotto-Cleary, David Lyons, Kathryn Hess, Kenneth Nugent and Jennifer Letourneau (Director)

Absent Commission Members: Ted Pickering

Attendees: Tracy Dwyer, Cambridge Public Works; James Cater, Eversource Energy; Bronwyn Cooke, CDD

Purvi Patel opened the hearing.

7:01 - Request for Determination of Applicability Eversource Energy – Electric Vehicle Charging Station Rindge Avenue Adjacent to Jerry's Pond

James Cater from Eversource opened up the meeting explaining that Eversource would be installing Electric Vehicle Charging Stations throughout the state. Eversource has planned to install one on Rindge Avenue in the parking lot adjacent to Jerry's Pond. Because of the location this project was brought to the Commission for determination of applicability. Jennifer Letourneau the Commission's Director explained that utilities are an exempt project. However, there were three (3) trees that would be affected but the installation of the EV charging station. Jennifer suggested to Eversource that they change the location of the station to the hardscape area from the softscape. This change in location would alleviate any distribution to the trees. Purvi asked where the delineation of the wetland was on the plans, Jennifer explained that it was left out, but was in alignment with the hardscape.

Kaki asked Jennifer to explain the language on the utility exemption, so Jennifer went over the language with the commission again which exempts the commission.

Purvi asked if Eversource re-routed their project to the hardscape area would that be a negative determination by the commission? Yes, Jennifer said it would be a negative determination.

Jennifer asked James from Eversource if they would be able to re-route the charging station and he said that wouldn't be a problem, but they would have to dig safe the area to make sure there are not conflicts.

Purvi closed public comment.

The commission has determined negative applicability for this project. The standard RDA conditions would apply.

**7:10 – Request for Determination of Applicability
Charles River Yacht Club – Float Replacement
Memorial Drive within the Charles River**

Jennifer Letourneau Director of Commission presented the project to the commission. Jennifer explained that this project would have no impacts on the wetlands on the river. The replacement floats would be floated down the river from Watertown, the old floats disconnected and then they would connect the new floats. This would just be simply unscrewing the bolts from the old floats and attaching them back on with the new floats. They would then take the old floats back up the river to Watertown where they would be removed. They have received a letter from the Army Corps of Engineers for this project.

David asked how this differed from the Harvard Sailing project and Jennifer said there would be no construction on the river, no night working, no welding. Simply floating in the new and floating out the old floats.

Elysse asked what the size of the docks were? Jennifer said they are replacing them with the same size docks. Elysse also asked if there would be any impacts on races or events on the river? Jennifer said there would be no impacts.

Jennifer stated that it would be the standard construction regulations, seventy-two (72) hour notification to her prior to the start of the work. She will go out to the site and take before and after pictures.

Purvi asked the duration of the project? Jennifer said the project should take no later than a week.

Purvi closed public comment.

The commission agreed negative determination of applicability with the standard RDA.

7:16 - Administrative Topics

Meeting Minutes from January 7, 2019 meeting were approved.

Purvi asked Jennifer if there were any updates for the commission. Jennifer told the commission that there is an appeal from North Cambridge Stabilization Committee in regard to the 50 Cambridge Park Drive project.

Jennifer also told the commission that there is an increased concern regarding trees in the City and David Lyons had asked about some trees in the Acorn Park Drive area. Jennifer told the commission that there were some trees that had come down after a wind storm that were cleaned up and also there were some tree maintenance going on in the area, but there were no removals of trees in the wetlands without the commission's permission.

Jennifer explained that the construction of the Talbot Street Outfall project is coming along, and that construction is going well.

Jennifer said there are some changes coming up in the city's Tree Ordinance and that once it's finalized she will let the commission know about the changes and maybe have the City's Arborist come to a meeting to explain them. She said this change in the ordinance should have no effect on the commission's decisions.

7:29 - Meeting Adjourned

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