



City of Cambridge Conservation Commission

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Public Meeting – Monday, March 9, 2020 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) , Jennifer Letourneau (Director), David Lyons (Vice Chair), Kaki Martin, Erum Sattar

Absent Commission Members: Elysse Magnotto-Cleary, Kathryn Hess, Ted Pickering

Attendees: Tracy Dwyer, Cambridge Public Works; James Wilcox, Cambridge Public Works; Duke Bitsko, Hatch; David Kaplan, Cambridge Water Department

Purvi Patel opened the meeting.

7:04 – Request for Determination of Applicability

Cambridge Water Department
Glacken Slope Phase 6

David Kaplan from the Cambridge water Department was present at the meeting along with Duke Bitsko from Hatch. Duke reviewed the project to the commission and stated that they would like the project to be complete by June 30, 2020, so that the Glacken Field project can get started and trees could have time to grow.

Duke reviewed the various stages of the project. Phase 1 was for water control on the slope with bioretention's and swales as well as impervious paving on the path behind the golf course club house. Phases 2,3,4 was woodland restoration and gully restoration with prefabricated logs for the slopes and backfilling with soil and blankets. The blankets last 3-5 years and help stabilize the slope.

Purvi asked about the 100 year storm and how that will effect this project. Duke explained that the project will fix the runoff from the field. The field project also includes a porous path at the back of field at the edge of the slope and that will take away the water. Duke also stated that they have three (3) invasive trees to remove that are black locust. They did say earlier in the project that they would be doing some soil replacement, but they have since gone out to the location and will be leaving the leaves and soil. He said that there would be a total of fifty four (54) tree removals, mostly black locust but they would be planting one hundred fifty (150) new trees.

Erum asked how phases 2 ,3 and 4 were working and were they stable?

Duke stated that all of those phases are working and stable. He said that they had to change out some of plantings because they were growing well, so some lessons learned about some of the plant species but otherwise everything else is operating well.

Purvi asked if we saw phase 5? Jennifer stated that we did see phase 5.

David Lyons asked about the maintenance of the bio-retentions? David Kaplan from the Water Department stated that they are cleaned out two (2) times a year spring and fall.

There was no public comment and public comment was closed.

Duke also stated that not only the black locust are being removed but there are also 4-5 other invasive species being removed. He also stated that from the review made by STV of the project recommendation number 3, he said that there will be fencing put up at the beginning of the project because the path is used often as well as to keep out dogs walking off leash. He stated that recommendation number 7 that there would be no stakes used for the compost socks, but they plans depicted otherwise, so they would have a revision made.

Purvi went through the revisions to the project. Change in not soil use, the stakes not being used on the compost socks as well as the fencing.

Duke stated that forty eight (48) of the trees being removed are greater than eight inches in diameter. David Lyons asked if they have all been approved by the City and permitted? Jennifer stated that all the trees have been documented, permitted and approved for removal. Duke stated that all of the black locust trees will be reused in playgrounds and other projects.

7:27 – Negative Request for Determination was approved

7:31 – Administrative Topics

Meeting Minutes from February 24, 2020 meeting were approved.

Jennifer updated the commission on the Zooplaktin project that was heard by the commission. She said that they need to change the location of the project due to the MBTA working on the Craigie Bridge for the Green Line Extension Project. They will be moving the project west of the bridge and was approved by DCR. She asked the commission if they wanted to review the location again or could she just do an administrative amendment to their permit? The commission agreed that if Jennifer was OK with the location move that it could be an administrative change.

7:36 – Meeting Adjourned

