



City of Cambridge Conservation Commission

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Public Meeting – Monday, December 16, 2019 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), Kathryn Hess, Jennifer Letourneau (Director), David Lyons (Vice Chair), Ted Pickering, Elysse Magnotto-Cleary, Erum Sattar

Absent Commission Members: Kaki Martin

Attendees: Tracy Dwyer, Cambridge Public Works; James Wilcox, Cambridge Public Works; David Giangrande, DCI; Michaela Heffernan, DCI; Alyssa Jacobs, Epsilon Associates

Purvi Patel opened the hearing.

7:00 – Request for Certificate of Compliance Residences at Acorn Park (Belmont, MA) DEP File #123-208

Alyssa Jacobs from Epsilon was present to review the project with the Commission. Alyssa stated that there were no issues with the project. Jennifer stated she had been out for site visits and everything was fully functioning and there were no trees disturbed by the project.

There was no public comment.

David Lyons asked if they had been to the Town of Belmont already? Alyssa said they are still awaiting a site visit from them. She stated that there were about ten (10) Belmont citizens who appealed the project because it was part of the Silver Maple Forest.

The commission unanimously agreed to approve the Certificate of Compliance

7:04 – Request for Certificate of Compliance
95 Fawcett Street (Expired NOI – Refiled)
DEP File #123-264

David Giangrande and Michaela Heffernan were present from DCI to explain the project to the commission. David explained in May of 2016 an Order of Conditions was approved by the commission due to land subject to flooding. They had discovered that there was an easement on the property due to a pipe which ran through the property. In April the permit was expired, and they agreed to make the foot print of the building smaller so not to build over the City owned pipe. The only construction that took place during the permitted time was some excavation and piles were installed. He believed that also the foundation of the building was completed.

David Lyons asked if there were any impacts to the site? Jennifer stated that they were in good standing and that everything was clean and there were no issues.

David Lyons asked who the pipe belonged to? David Giangrande said the pipe belonged to the City of Cambridge.

There was no public comment.

The commission unanimously agreed to approve the Certificate of Compliance.

7:11 – Notice of Intent
95 Fawcett Street (Expired NOI – Refiled)
DEP File To Be Determined

David Giangrande from DCI was there to explain the project to the commission. He said once they discovered that there was a City owned pipe encroaching the property they changed the foot print of the building, as to not build over the pipe in case the City needed access in the future. David stated there is still land subject to flooding, but they now have a reduction of building and an increase of green space. There will be flood storage on-site and overall the city will now have access to their infrastructure.

Ted Pickering asked when the building was built? David Giangrande was not sure of the exact date, but he said due to the architecture of the building he would guess that it was probably built in the 1940's-1950's.

Erum Sattar asked back in May of 2017 did they know that there was a pipe there owned by the City? David Giangrande said no they did not.

Jim Wilcox said that pipe was installed in the 1940's and it's a stormwater pipe and sanitary pipe. Ted Pickering asked if it was one pipe or separated? Jim stated that it was two (2) separate pipes.

Kathryn Hess asked if all elevations were hydraulically connected and connected at that elevation that is subject to flooding? David Giangrande stated that they are. They have run the models for the 2030 and 2070 storms. He said the parking level is subject to flooding but there is no mechanics on that level for the building.

Erum Sattar asked about them changing the footprint of building? David Giangrande stated that they did that for the easement to the City's infrastructure.

Kathryn asked about the green area on the plans and it being "daylighted" she asked if there was a loss of flood storage. David Giangrande said there was no loss.

Jennifer stated DEP would be issuing a Notice of Intent number and they had no comments.

Jim Wilcox reviewed his technical review memo with the commission and David Giangrande. Jim stated that there is less impact to the Resource Area compared to the May 2016 Order of Conditions.

Jim also recommended they should include a Stormwater Report, although the Order of Conditions are marginal in comparison to the May 2016 iteration.

Jim recommends that they include an Erosion and Sediment Controls map, although they did include it in the narrative, he said it would be nice for the commission to have a visual.

The last two points Jim reviewed with them was regarding the Flood Area and Volume Analysis Plan "Figure 1, Flood Area and Volume Analysis Plan - Based on this plan, the project is filling 213 cubic feet of existing flood storage between elevations 18.00 and 18.66. The plan shows that 548 cubic feet of compensatory flood storage is being provided between elevations 18.00 and 18.66. The plan also demonstrates that compensatory volume has an unrestricted hydraulic connection to the same waterway."

Jim also stated that the as-built drawing and calculation that should be provided to the Commission at the end of the project with the Request for Certificate of Compliance.

There was no public comment.

The commission unanimously agreed to approve the Notice of Intent.

7:28 – Administrative Topics

Meeting Minutes from November 18, 2019 meeting were approved.

The Commission welcomed Erum Sattar to her first meeting. Purvi stated that they Boards and Commissions page on the City's website needed to be updated with the members names.

Jennifer stated that in January she would be renewing the expiring commission members terms.

7:35 – Meeting Adjourned