

Department of Planning and Community Development

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Mayor Joseph C. Sullivan

Braintree Conservation Commission

Patrick Flynn, Chair
Donald Murphy, Vice-Chair
Diane Francis
Matthew Hobin
Daniel J. McMorrow, Jr.
Gail Poliner-Feldman
Alan Weinberg

Staff Kelly Phelan

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2014

Present: Patrick Flynn, Chair; Gus Murphy, Vice Chair; Diane Francis, Alan Weinberg & Kelly Phelan, Staff

Absent: Gail Feldman, Matthew Hobin

Public Hearings

none

Other Business

APPROVED

Eaton's Pond Vegetation Removal

Staff said the Army Corps of Engineers is requiring the Town to remove vegetation along the flood control structures Eaton's Pond including the dam, spillway and a section of rip rap embankment. The DPW is working with a contractor to have this done. They are planning to flail mow the areas.

Mr. Weinberg suggested Army Corps should contribute to the work and asked if they inspect and send reports. Staff said they do inspect the flood control project and send reports to the Town. She will send a copy to the Commission.

Because the work is maintenance (though deferred maintenance) the Commission will not require a filing. Mr. Flynn requested that staff be involved in the oversight while the work is going on.

Eaton's Pond Clean Up

Staff said the dump site at Eaton's Pond had finally been cleaned up by a combination of a few part-time employees, including the ranger, as well as volunteers. Mr. Flynn said he stopped by the clean up and it was well-organized and they removed a huge amount of trash from the site.

Staff she was working with the ranger to mark the trails. Several residents of Skyline apartments, and at least one abutter from the surrounding neighborhood, were at the clean up and they are interested in keeping the area in good condition. Once the trails are marked, staff would like to have a trail walk and invite these groups. If the residents walk the area regularly it will help keep people from trying to camp there.

Update on Ranger Activities

Staff gave the Commission an update on the ranger's activities. These include regular patrolling and trash removal as well as other projects such as weeding the rain gardens, invasive species removal and working on the clean up at Eaton's Pond.

Mr. Flynn said it was all valuable work and suggested increasing the ranger's hours from three a week to six a week. Staff agreed that it would be helpful to have him work every week. There is sufficient money in the conservation fund to pay for this.

Motion by Mr. Murphy, second by Ms. Francis, to increase the ranger's hours to six per week total. Vote: 4-0.

Minutes & Executive Session Minutes

August 7, 2014

Mr. Weinberg noted that the executive session minutes should be changed to read "come out of" rather than "close" executive session and that it should be noted that no votes were taken. Staff made that amendment to the minutes.

Motion by Mr. Weinberg, second by Mr. Murphy, to approve the executive session minutes of August 7, 2014. Vote: 4-0.

Motion by Mr. Weinberg, second by Mr. Murphy, to approve the regular session minutes of August 7, 2014. Vote: 4-0.

September 11, 2014

Motion by Mr. Weinberg, second by Mr. Murphy, to approve the minutes of September 11, 2014. Vote: 4-0.

Adjourn

Motion by Mr. Murphy, second by Mr. Weinberg, to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm. Vote: 4-0.