Town of Bellingham

Conservation Commission North Community Building Bellingham, MA 02019 Minutes of the meeting of March 25, 2009

Project: 105-646 Project Description:

NOI 187 Farm Street – (combined Lots 1 & 2)
Stall Brook Business Park

Commercial development & stormwater managements

Applicant:

RC&D Inc., Mike Rose 17 Gordon Avenue, Suite 205

Providence, RI

Representative:

Land Planning Inc. 167 Hartford Avenue Bellingham, MA

Hearing Time: 7:30 PM

Bill Halsing was present when Cliff Matthews opened the continued hearing. Cliff gave a brief history of the site by stating that two previous NOI's were filed last spring and withdrawn without prejudice. Subsequently, two more NOI's were submitted, one for Lot 1 and one for Lot 2. The NOI for Lot 1 was recently withdrawn. The applicant has proceeded with Lot 2 as a combined filing for Lot 1 and Lot 2. Cliff Matthews was adamant that the submitted information referenced in the current Notice of Intent, including the submitted plans, refer to Lot 1 and Lot 2 and insisted that this would complicate the issues since this filing is for one lot only. Bill Halsing presented a revised plan for the site in which the Planning Board has approved the combination of the two previous lots into one lot. He stated further that the Planning Board signed the new 81P combining the two lots again on March 12th of this year. Commissioners contended that the plans still reflect different owners and refer to Lot 1 and Lot 2. Jim Hentz stated that the two lots are not legally combined until one of them is purchased by the other thereby creating one lot again. He suggested waiting until the lot is purchased before issuing a permit. Discussion followed. Commissioners agreed to issue an Order of Conditions with Special Conditions added that state that no work may commence until we received a copy of the recorded deed combining the two lots, that the verbiage on the new plans (that will supersede the current Plans of Record) reflect that the transaction has occurred, and that the site's referenced plans indicate that the property is comprised of only one lot and one owner. Motion was made to accept the conditions and was voted unanimously in approval. The hearing was closed.

The Commission signed the Order of Conditions for 105-646/187 Farm Street/Stall Brook Business Park with the added special conditions as discussed above.

The Commission will try to get to 1025 S. Main Street to look at the proposed replication area on Saturday, March 28th. The site is currently under an Enforcement Order and the applicant's representative, Bill Halsing, claims that the proposed replication area has a number of mature trees that would have to be cut in order to construct the 1,000 – 2,000 sf replication.

Cliff Matthews reported on the Bellingham Bikeway Committee update. The Board of Selectmen approved the Bikeway Committee as a subcommittee of the Conservation Commission on March 23rd. Selectwoman, Mary Chaves, will also be on the subcommittee. Minutes and agendas must be posted on the website. Cliff Also gave a quick report on his meeting with Rep. Jen Callahan on Monday, March 16th. Rep. Callahan will continue to make contacts and research funding alternatives for this project.

Cliff Matthews reported that the Finance Committee recommended the capital expense of \$7,000 to supplement the Conservation Commission's budget allowance in order to contract with Aquatic control Technology to treat the fanwort at Silver Lake with Sonar this summer. The Sonar treatment should be performed every three years and has not been done, due to budget constraints, since the summer of 2004. The capital expense article will be voted on at the Annual Town Meeting in May.

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Cliff also notified the Commissioners that Administrator George Holmes must reduce his hours by 20% beginning on July 1st and that Anne Matthews will have a 20% reduction in her stipend effective that same date. This is due to the current budgetary crisis.

George Holmes presented pictures on the continuing problem of snow storage at the Stall Brook Market Place. George will be contacting Al Rocco of W/S Development to institute a more effective means of snow storage that will not compromise the resource areas on site i.e. construction of a six foot high chain link fence, 6" off the ground, with snow fence inside.

The CRWA Annual Earth Day Clean Up is scheduled for April 25th from 9 – noon.

Town Counsel has submitted a letter in response to the Commission's request to review the proposed open space deed at Bellingham Estates. The Planning Board and the DPW have been asked to participate in the street acceptance review.

The Commission welcomed prospective new member, Brian Norton, to our meeting. Brian will also be attending our site walk this Saturday.

Attending the meeting were: Cliff Matthews, Barry Lariviere, Jim Hentz, Anne Matthews and Administrator George Holmes. Prospective new member, Brian Norton, was also in attendance.