

Minutes
Watertown Conservation Commission
Lower Hearing Room
Wednesday, January 7, 2015
7:30 p.m.

Conservation Commission Members Present: Marylouise Pallotta McDermott, Maria P. Rose, Charles C. Bering, Louis Taverna.

Commission Members Absent: Leo G. Martin, Patrick Fairbairn

Staff Present: Christopher J. Hayward, Susan C. Jenness

Pallotta McDermott chaired.

(Minutes Adopted 2-4-15)

1) Whitney Hill - Annual Recommendations on Maintenance and Education – Watertown Conservation Commission.

The Agent distributed copies of the Whitney Hill letter to the members of the Conservation Commission (CC). He briefed the CC members that he had called some monument companies for prices and reviewed the letter with Steve Magoon.

The CC members will continue to work with the Town Council as they continue to make ongoing recommendations relevant to the letter.

Motion: Rose moves to approve letter to Town Council. McDermott seconds the motion.

Vote: Unanimous vote to approve of the letter to the Town Council.

2) Commission Minutes of December 2014 - Minutes adopted.

3) Public Hearing – Request for Determination of Applicability – 202-204 Pleasant Street – for the demolition of a concrete block garage to be replaced with natural turf and landscaping. Applicant/Owner: Matt Keys.

The Applicant has obtained approval to demolish his garage at 202-204 Pleasant Street. He is returning the space to green and putting up a fence and will use the same contactor from a recent project at 192 Pleasant Street. He stated that the fence is needed as the area is heavily frequented by dogs that enter in and out of the converted green space without one.

Bering requested the applicant talk about how he plans to demolish his garage. He did not have details about that at this time.

The Agent suggested that if the applicant gave him at least a 48 hour notice prior to the demolition, he would come to observe and advise while it is in progress.

The fence was discussed while the CC members looked at the models in the Applicant's submission. The Agent stated that other occupants in the immediate area have turtles and rabbits using their yards for their habitat and that would need to be considered in choosing a fence to keep them safe.

It was determined that the Agent will work with the applicant and his contractor for demolishing the garage.

Motion: Rose made a motion to issue a Negative Determination with included minor conditions. Taverna seconded the motion.

Vote: The project is unanimously approved.

Issued: Determination of Applicability is signed by present members of the CC.

Conditions:

- 1) Conservation Agent shall be notified no less than 48 hours prior to commencement of any demolition.
 - 2) All work shall take place on the owners property and be conducted without causing any damage to the fence or boardwalk of DCR properties.
 - 3) No demolition material shall migrate from owner's property. All debris and other disposables from the project shall be taken off site for appropriate disposal. No material shall be dumped within the wetlands or within 150 feet of the wetlands. The property owner shall be liable should any materials be dumped in these areas.
 - 4) Demolition shall not be performed by mechanical means.
- 4) Old Business-**The old business would be Whitney Field which had been discussed at the beginning of the meeting.
- 5) Agent Update/New Business -** The Agent discussed the potential for a Notice of Intent to be applied for by the DCR for dredging a portion of the Charles River. He stated that he should know more about the proposed location and perhaps even have an NOI submitted for the February meeting.

The meeting is adjourned at 8:30 PM.