



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28TH, 2020, 7:00 PM
MINUTES

MEETING AT SOMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
93 HIGHLAND AVENUE
3RD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

Commission Members in attendance: Rachel Borgatti (Chair), Cristina Kennedy, David Turin, Aladdine Joroff , Newton Tedder, Titania Ng (unconfirmed)

Commission Members absent: Michael Fager

Others in Attendance: None

Staff: Malik Drayton (Conservation Agent)

Rachel Borgatti called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm followed by introductions.

New Business:
None

1. Community Gardens forms and manuals
 - Conservation Commission oversees the Community gardens
 - Updates made to forms and manuals
 - Updates made to Application forms and renewal form
 - Discussion ensues about Chuckie Harris Community garden
 - Manual/ forms finalization paused
 - Commissioner Kennedy to follow up with Erica and Tara
 - Erica → Community outreach / Engagement
 - Wait-List Merging
 - Chuckie Harris Information
 - Director Oliveira's notes discussed
 - Tara is the garden coordinator for Chuckie Harris Garden
 - Pollinator gardens? Edible plants?
 - Commission to find and fund plantings?
 - Pilot project to resuscitate the garden



- Council on Aging use?
- RFP without money?
- What would the community like to have there?
- Can we take these garden plots out of the community garden?
- Is there an active waitlist?
- It could work as a community garden if there was enough interest
 - Create a sense of ownership
- RFP→ Informal soliciting → Community Process
- Desire for more accessible communal space
- East Somerville main Streets
- Signage in 3 or 4 different languages
- Invite Luisa to the next Conservation Commission meeting
- Communal Garden?
- Reach out to Lincoln Park coordinator
 - Feedback on the first season
- Chuckie Harris will be “under review” and off the list of options for the season
- Letter to Garden Coordinators
 - Gardeners must submit information for the master list

2. Ongoing Projects

- Review of ongoing spreadsheet
- Conservation Agent Action Item Review
 - MD to add ConCom Share drive:
 - Project Specific Special conditions
 - All draft Letters
 - MD to update ongoing project data
 - MD to request update from Patrick Heron pertaining to a Comprehensive Aquatic Invasive Treatment Plan

3. Commissioner Re-Appointments / Appointments

4. Somersvision 2040 updates

- Chair Borgatti gives the Somersvision 2040 update

5. CPC Updates

- Planning for the year
- 03-25-2020 CPC planning process
- Allocation of funds → testify / concerns
- What does the Conservation Commission CPC Representative want?
- Orientation with the CPC Statewide CPA person
- Land acquisition Fund

6. Discussion on Conservation Commission Agenda and Operations for 2020

7. Approval of Minutes

- November 26th, 2019 [Motion- Kennedy, Second - Joroff]

Adjourn:

- 1) Motion to adjourn meeting unanimously approved at 9:07 pm [motion – Fager , second – Turin, vote: 5:0:0].



Action Items:

2020

- **Action:** Agent Drayton to add ConCom Share drive: Project Specific Special conditions and all draft Letters
- **Action:** Agent Drayton to update ongoing project data
- **Action:** Agent Drayton to request update from Patrick Heron pertaining to a Comprehensive Aquatic Invasive Treatment Plan

2019

November:

- **Action:** Agent Drayton to ask Dr. Boukili for more information on how the financial tracking sheet should be utilized.
- **Action:** Agent Drayton to get a copy of the signed Conservation Restriction and file appropriately
- **Action:** Agent Drayton to find more information on another pending Conservation Restriction at Winter Hill
- **Action:** Agent Drayton to contact AAC member in regards to memo, possibly aiding in creating draft memo.

October:

- **Action:** Agent Drayton to update Garden Map to include more street names (remove walkshed circles or put on interactive map so that people can zoom in and out).
- **Action:** Send correspondence l to DPW, Planning, Engineering, Capital Projects, and any other departments who might review construction or development projects. Remind them of Conservation Commission jurisdiction and requirements that must be following when working near the river.

September:

- **Action:** Agent Drayton to work with T&I staff on educational brochure formatting.
- **Action:** After reformat this brochure to be able to easily print it, put this on website.

March:

- **Action:** ConCom to send letter to Patrick and DCR asking for details of milfoil treatment plant and meeting summary from discussion of chemicals to be used.

February:

- **Action:** Garden subcommittee will submit a draft of all garden documents to be sent out to the ConCom and Garden Coordinators in time for the March 26th ConCom meeting.
- **Action:** design and price out signs to add to Medford's outfall poles.

2018

November:

- **Action:** Commissioner Fager to draft letter to DCR re: Draw 7 Park, Commissioner Turin and Kennedy to assist.

List of Meeting Documents (located here K:\OHCD\Shared\Conservation Commission\Agenda + Minutes + Legal Notices 2019\2019_01_28_Meeting_Documents):

- Agenda (2019_11_26_Agenda.pdf)
- Ongoing Projects spreadsheet (Ongoing Project Data.xlsx)