



Waltham Conservation Commission

May 21, 2026

Meeting Minutes

Meeting took place via public Zoom call with participation information posted at City Hall, Government Center, and on the Commission's page of the city web site. Zoom information was circulated directly to all applicants and others on the public agenda.

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM.

Attendees: Chair Bill Doyle, Gerard Dufromont, Michael Donovan, Anja Shafer, Frank Fitzgerald. Conservation Agent Julia Abbott.

Absent: Vice Chair Lisa Limonciello.

Public Meeting

Informal Discussion

Regarding: DEP file #316-0777. Beaver Brook Reservation invasive species management. Request by DCR to expand one of the project's approved management zones.

Megan Shave of DCR was present. She explained the request, which was prompted by outreach from the Waltham Land Trust and Belmont Conservation Stewards, which have both offered additional volunteer effort for this invasive management project. The focus will be woody invasives, specifically porcelain berry and multiflora rose, within the project's Management Zone 5. The request is to expand this zone southward to include more of the parcel. She showed a map of the area with the current area and proposed expansion highlighted. Discussion. Ms. Abbott recommended that the commission approve this change, and that it will be noted when the COC is applied for. Ms. Shafer asked if the volunteers would have appropriate training for this type of removal; Ms. Shave confirmed that they will, and that the lead volunteer from Belmont has extensive training and experience. She clarified that volunteers will be required to follow the removal and disposal conditions of the order of conditions.

Motion to approve this change by Ms. Shafer, seconded by Mr. Dufromont. In favor: Donovan, Shafer, Fitzgerald, Dufromont, Doyle. **Motion approved.**

Mr. Doyle asked Ms. Shave to continue to keep the commission informed, and thanked DCR for the work they're doing there.

Public Meeting

Informal Discussion

Regarding: DEP file #316-0814 (200 Trapelo Road — driving range). Original NOI was withdrawn, but OOC was recorded at registry of deeds. Applicant is looking to begin a new project after amending original OOC. Conservation agent recommendation is to close old project (RCOC) to remove all previous conditions and submit a new NOI.

Dave LaPointe of Beals and Thomas was present. He explained that they are working with the Waltham Recreation Department on a revised design for the golf facility at 200 Trapelo Road (Fernald). It will change from a driving range to a pitch-and-putt. Regarding the existing OOC, he

raised the issue of areas that were not part of the driving range, and outside WPA jurisdiction, as having been included in the filing, and what this would mean moving forward.

Mr. Doyle clarified the purpose of this discussion, and emphasized that the discussion to follow should focus on the previous NOI and OOC and their resolution, and that the commission should avoid deliberating on the new project, since a new NOI has not yet been submitted; discussions should not drift into requirements or conditions of a filing that does not yet exist.

Mr. LaPointe agreed, and stressed that this appearance is to clarify the status of the old conditions with regard to the entire site as it exists today, and to determine if there are any existing conditions that would affect future work. Discussion. Mr. LaPointe noted that Beals and Thomas was not the firm that developed the previous proposal, which is part of why they are seeking clarification. He presented the plans of the original golf proposal and the current draft of the anticipated new proposal. He noted that the new driveway, parking, and storm water management would be similar or identical to the old proposal; the new proposal would not include tee boxes and would need much less grading. He presented the two areas of confusion: the memorial area adjacent to Trapelo Road and the frisbee golf course, neither of which were proposed in WPA jurisdictional areas. The issue is that these areas were included in the original plan set, which is referenced in the order of conditions. The memorial has been built, but not the frisbee golf course. Mr. Doyle proposed that the applicant apply for a certificate of compliance, to close the original order. This will note which work was done and which wasn't, and will distinguish between areas in or out of jurisdiction. Mr. Doyle recommended that any plans submitted with the new proposed project include a clear delineation of the limit of work around jurisdictional areas, to avoid issues similar to those discussed here.

Commission Business

- Approval of meeting minutes from 5-7-2026. Motion to approve by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Ms. Shafer. In favor: Donovan, Shafer, Fitzgerald, Dufromont, Doyle. **Motion passed.**

Correspondence

- NOTED: DEP has raised regional drought status to "Level 2 – Significant Drought."

Site Visit Reports

- 32 Riverview Ave. Ms. Abbott noted this new filing, and that a site visit will be scheduled.

Committee Reports

- **CPC:** Annual input meeting was May 12. Mr. Fitzgerald reported on the applications received.
 - Restoration of Waltham's first book of town records.
 - Restoration of the Revolutionary War memorial.
 - Acquisition of 46 and 48 Mount Walley Road [48BEF and 48] for affordable housing.
 - Acquisition of 50 Mount Walley Road for affordable housing.
 - Inclusive playground at Northeast Elementary School.
 - Middlesex Human Services treatment center acquisition of 118 Prospect Street.

All applications were approved.

Mr. Dufromont asked for the next meeting date. This has not been set. [It will be September 15 or 22.]

The Commission was scheduled to convene the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Conservation Trust Fund immediately following this meeting (the commission and board of trustees are separate bodies). The commission will not return at the conclusion of the trust fund meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mr. Dufromont. All present in favor. **Motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.

The recordings of the commission meeting and the trust fund meeting are continuous, but the minutes are separate.