

TOWN OF
STONEHAM
MASSACHUSETTS

Town Hall
35 Central Street

Stoneham Conservation Commission
781-279-2696

STONEHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
AUGUST 7 2023 REMOTE 7 PM

Please join meeting <https://meet.goto.com/982013581>
Phone Access Code: 982-013-581 United States: [+1 \(872\) 240-3212](tel:+18722403212)

Jessica Gerke, Richard Jackson, Norman L'Esperance, Domenick Cimina, Bob Galvin

DISCUSSION

Mulberry Forest School

Mary Jirmanus

Review of proposed plan for Whip Hill

Mary Jirmanus Saba is a geographer, artist, educator and resident of Medford living in Malden. For the last year has been meeting with parents and children at Whip Hill. Special energy in Stoneham, Forest Schools started in Scandinavia in 1950s, Mulberry Forest School seeking certification from State Department of Early Education and Care. Obtain liability insurance for 4 days a week 9-12:30pm with portable toilet and carry in/carry out handwashing station. Sarah Carlisle as teacher runs small company that does gardening and outdoor education and has liability insurance as an educator. Department of Early Education requires sketch of outdoor space and emergency service accessibility for licensing. Permission to gather under house awning for Emergency Shelter in case of inclement weather. Leave no trace, love of nature, disability justice, community care for multigenerational households, and stewards of environment.

Jessica Gerke asks how many students this year? Mary Jirmanus responds 4 but up to 10 or 12 allowed by the State. Norman L'Esperance does not have questions. Richard Jackson would like to think about it.

Attorney Galvin asks if this is seasonal and during the week? Mary Jirmanus replies that it is only during the week, they have been meeting year round. May only meet during school year. Attorney Galvin asks about interactions with public. Mary Jirmanus responds has seen caretaker, person reading a book, sometimes encounter garden club, many times there is no one else there. Mary Jirmanus comments they were asked to not park in upper parking lot so now park in lower parking lot. Attorney Galvin asks if children or caretakers have had any physical disabilities that have created challenges- Mary Jirmanus mentions very accessible, no issues. Attorney Galvin asks about changing room or bathroom, answer from Mary Jirmanus that portable toilet with liners and handwashing station is state solution and can share documentation.

Awning at building for inclement weather Attorney Galvin asks if sufficient, Mary Jirmanus says awning is large enough to gather under. Mary Jirmanus says she will write into policy limitations of space, and extreme weather wouldn't meet. Attorney Galvin says it lends itself to permissive licensing agreement, Town would have to require insurance and indemnity program. Persons responsible will be CORI checked to say those in charge have had background checks proof required. Insurance indemnity non discrimination at all facilities memorialized in policy. Department of Early Education and Care has their own background check. Attorney Galvin will need Mary Jirmanus' contact information.

Jessica Gerke asks about timeline, dependent on appropriate licensing to accept proposal. Richard Jackson asks if this can be discussed in executive sessions, Galvin responds it needs to meet one of the criteria. Jessica Gerke mentions we will resolve in the next week and be back in touch.

Open Space and Recreation Review

Review Conservation Commission's roles

Postponed until Megan Day attends. Jessica Gerke mentions 7 year plan at end for review.

95 Maple St #297-0411

Steve Glowacki

Update to tree removal onsite.

Jessica Gerke mentions that medical building will be turned into condominium development and they are adding non substantial change of removing tree on site.

Miscellaneous

Topics for Future Agendas

Approve Meeting Minutes from July 10, 2023

Motion made to approve minutes by Norman L'Esperance and seconded by Richard Jackson Roll call yes 4/0 Jessica Gerke, Norman L'Esperance, Domenick Cimina and Richard Jackson

Next Meeting August 28, 2023 remote at 7pm.

Attorney Galvin Rear Hillside matter will be dismissed, completely resolved. Regulatory taking will not proceed. Case is over with a document that will be filed. No need for Executive Session.

Executive Session

To discuss strategy with respect to all pending litigation where an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the Town and the chair so declares pursuant to Mass. Gen. L. c. 30A sec. 21(a)(3) to wit: Rear Hillside v. Stoneham Conservation Commission

Motion to adjourn by Norman L'Esperance and seconded by Richard Jackson Roll call Domenick Cimina, Norman L'Esperance, Richard Jackson and Jessica Gerke yes 4/0