

Board of Selectmen – May 11, 2009

Present: Mills, Searle, Dugan, Babson, Tsagaris

Also present: Larsen, Ketchen, Connolly, Robinson

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

Warrant: Approved #2009-046

Citizen Speak: None.

Minutes: Approved minutes of the May 4, 2009 meeting.

Business:

A. Executive Directors Update:

Mr. Mills reminded the public of the upcoming Wellesley Wonderful Weekend on Saturday and Sunday, May 16-17, 2009.

The Board voted to appoint David B. Smith, Carolyn Morris, Eric Cohen and Lisa Abeles to the Historic District Commission for terms expiring on June 30, 2012.

B. QPR Program:

Director of Youth Services, Maura Renzella and Health Department Director Mary Suresh came forward to give a presentation on recent mental health intervention training they received through the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health and the Coalition for Suicide Prevention on the QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) Program. The program is designed to prevent suicide and will be shared with Town and School personnel.

After the QPR presentation Ms. Suresh gave an update on the status of H1N1 influenza in the Town. She reported that there were four confirmed cases of individuals infected in Wellesley, each of whom have recovered. The focus now is on reducing the spread of H1N1 in the community.

C. Old/New Business

Wellesley High School Building Committee – Ms. Searle reported that she is sending a letter to the Massachusetts Historical Commission requesting their favorable and timely response to the plans for the High School project.

27 Washington Street – No update.

Senior Center Study – Ms. Tsagaris reported that the PBC is working on the contracts with the architect and project manager as well as programming.

DCR Bridge – Ms. Searle reported that she will be meeting with Dan Driscoll from DCR to begin initial design discussions (i.e. Phase 1 Plan).

ARRA (a.k.a. Federal Economic Stimulus) – Mr. Larsen reported that the staff and various board representatives are developing a more aggressive strategy for pursuing Federal stimulus opportunities. A meeting will be held on Wednesday,

May 20, 2009 to develop applications before the June 25, 2009 deadline. It was agreed that Mr. Dugan would represent the Board along with Mr. Larsen and Mr. Ketchen.

D. Public Hearing – Verizon Petition (Conduit on Central Street and Weston Road):
Mr. Mills opened the Public Hearing at 7:40 p.m.

Mr. Larsen described the location and scope of the proposed work. Mr. Gary Savignano representing Verizon described the work and the rationale for choosing this particular route. He further stated that the proposed work is a critical component of enabling the availability of Verizon's FiOS product throughout the Town. Mr. Larsen read a memorandum of recommendations from Assistant Town Engineer Douglas Stewart. Mr. Dugan asked several questions with regard to the hours of operation, which Mr. Savignano answered.

Mr. Mills welcomed public comment – there was none. Mr. Mills subsequently closed the Public Hearing at 7:53 p.m. The Board voted to approve Verizon Petition # D-09-08 to install conduit on Central Street and Weston Road, subject to the conditions recommended by Douglas Stewart, Assistant Town Engineer, in his May 8, 2009 memorandum to the Executive Director.

E. Letter to Planning Board – RE: Special Permit Extension for Wellesley Inn Site
Mr. Mills explained the substance of the Board's letter to the Planning Board (i.e. improvements to the landscaping and fencing of the site). Mr. Larsen summarized the response of the developer, including their agreement to make aesthetic improvements. However, they are not in a position to move forward with construction of the affordable units. Discussion ensued concerning the Selectmen's recommendations as well as the economic circumstances facing the developer. It was agreed to proceed with the recommendations to the Planning Board, as previously communicated.

At 8:09 p.m., the Board was polled all "yes" to enter Executive Session under MGL c.39, §§23B(1), (3) and (6).