

Excavation of Material Study Committee
May 9, 2016 Minutes
Prepared by: Lee Hartmann

These minutes are not verbatim – they are staff’s interpretation of what took place at the meeting. – Open Meeting Law – Section III.

Committee Members in attendance: Ed Angley, Russ Appleyard, Marc Garrett, Betsy Hall, Malcolm MacGregor, David Malaguti, Michael Main and Jack Risso.

Staff Member: Lee Hartmann

Ms. Hall opened the meeting.

Minutes

Mr. Malaguti moved to accept the minutes of April 24, 2016. Mr. Risso seconded the motion. The vote was passed unanimously.

Earth Removal Bylaw

Ms. Hall opened a general discussion about possible components of the earth removal bylaw.

The committee reviewed the draft bylaw and made several corrections and revisions.

The consensus of the committee was to require a minimum of 12 inches of topsoil on sites located in the Aquifer Protection District Zone II.

The committee agreed that it was necessary to further define objectionable negative effects in Section B(1)(a).

The committee discussed the need to establish setbacks and buffers to public ways. The consensus of the committee was that the current draft language adequately addresses the issue.

The committee discussed the 5 acre maximum disturbed area threshold. The committee agreed to insert language that gives the Zoning Board additional guidance for when the 5 acre threshold can be exceeded. Mr. Hartmann suggested adding language such as “In areas where vertical cuts exceed 30 feet, the Board of Appeals may allow, at their sole discretion, areas of disturbance in excess of 5 acres provided that based on documentation prepared by a qualified professional the Board finds that a larger area will minimize hazards or is necessary due to the size and scale of an earth removal operation.”

The committee discussed the 40 trips per day limitation and agreed to include guidance for the Board of Appeals for when an increase in trips would be acceptable.

Mr. Angley said that he would like to include language to allow the Board of Appeals to reduce setbacks and buffers.

Mr. Hartmann stated that the committee agreed to that language at the last meeting and would add it to the draft.

The committee agreed to hold its next meeting in two weeks.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee Hartmann, AICP
Director of Planning & Development

Approved: May 23, 2016