

TOWN OF NEEDHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 27, 2025

Under Governor Healey's Act "Extending Certain COVID-10 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency", extending the "Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c. 30A, §20," issued March 2023, meeting of public bodies may be conducted virtually provided that adequate access is provided to the public.

LOCATION: Zoom Virtual Platform – the meeting was held virtually per Governor Baker's Emergency Order.

ATTENDING: Dave Herer (Chair), Reade Everett, Sue Barber, Clary Coutu, Bill Hebard, Fred Moder, Polina Safran, Deb Anderson (Director of Conservation), Clay Hutchinson (Conservation Specialist)

D. Herer opened the public meeting at 7:00 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

1. Minutes

Motion to approve the meeting minutes of February 13, 2025, as amended, by C. Coutu, seconded by P. Safran, approved 7-0-0.

2. Enforcement Orders

None at this time.

HEARINGS/APPOINTMENTS:

914 CHARLES RIVER STREET (DEP FILE #234-944) – *continued* NOTICE OF INTENT

The Commission reviewed a draft Order of Conditions for this application.

Motion to close the hearing for 914 Charles River Street (DEP File #234-944), by F. Moder, seconded by P. Safran, approved 7-0-0.

Motion to issue waivers for work in the 25' no disturb zone, the 50' buffer zone, and the bordering land subject to flooding for 914 Charles River Street (DEP File #234-944), by C. Coutu, seconded by P. Safran, approved 7-0-0.

Motion to issue an Order of Conditions for 914 Charles River Street (DEP File #234-944), by S. Barber, seconded by B. Hebard, approved 7-0-0.

40 HIGHLAND AVENUE/14-16 RIVERSIDE DRIVE (DEP FILE #234-945) – *continued* NOTICE OF INTENT

The Commission reviewed a draft Order of Conditions for this application.

Motion to close the hearing for 40 Highland Avenue/14-16 Riverside Drive (DEP File #234-945), by F. Moder, seconded by C. Coutu, approved 7-0-0.

In response to a question from the Commission, the applicant explained that approximately 10,000 s.f. of lawn or landscaping is proposed on the plan. The plantings within the riverfront area are planned to meet the requirements and to act as a screen to the trail. The plantings outside of the buffer zone serve a separate function and are outside of the Commission's jurisdiction. The Commission agreed to include a two year monitoring requirement for the plantings in jurisdiction.

Motion to issue an Order of Conditions for 40 Highland Avenue/14-16 Riverside Drive (DEP File #234-945), by R. Everett, seconded by C. Coutu, approved 7-0-0.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The Commission thanked C. Hutchinson for his work and help over the years.

It was noted that there is a CPC hearing on trails on March 12th at 7pm.

The Commission discussed holding in-person/hybrid meetings.

D. Herer explained that the Rotary Club has an open weekend in May during which is it looking for a project to undertake. A project for improvement from the Ridge Hill's Esker Trail to the boardwalk could be considered.

ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn the meeting, by R. Everett, seconded by F. Moder, approved 7-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING:

March 13, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. location to be determined.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Kristan Patenaude*