

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, January 12, 2017**

LOCATION: Public Services Administration Building (PSAB), Charles River Room

ATTENDING: Sue Barber, Janet Carter Bernardo, Artie Crocker (arrived @ 7:40 p.m. and left @ 7:55 p.m.), Stephen Farr, Peter Oehlkers, Matthew Varrell (Director of Conservation), Debbie Anderson (Conservation Specialist)

GUESTS: Tom Lambert, Doug Sherman, Diane Simonelli, Joe Webby

J. Carter Bernardo opened the public meeting at 7:33 pm.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

MEETING MINUTES:

Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2016 by S. Farr, seconded by P. Oehlkers, approved 2-0-2 (S. Barber & J. Carter Bernardo abstained)

ENFORCEMENT & VIOLATION UPDATES:

M. Varrell gave S. Farr a brief summary of the status of the Central Avenue Bridge project.

HEARINGS

68 PLEASANT STREET – *continued* NOTICE OF INTENT (DEP FILE #234-772)

J. Carter Bernardo opened the public hearing at 7:45 p.m.

Diane Simonelli from Field Resources, Inc. represented the Applicant, Tom Lambert. D. Simonelli explained that the Plan had been updated to include the revisions the Commission had requested including:

- The plan had been signed (as required) by the Professional Engineer.
- Definitive plant species were added on the plan for the contractor to install.
- Detail of the proposed birdhouses was provided on the plan.
- The north arrow direction was fixed to show magnetic north as opposed to plan north.
- DEP Data Forms will be submitted.

J. Carter Bernardo stated the Commission was satisfied with the additional information that was submitted.

S. Farr signed a Mullen's Form.

Motion to close the public hearing for 68 Pleasant Street (DEP File #234-772) by S. Farr, seconded by P. Oehlkers, approved 4-0-1 (S. Barber abstained).

Motion to issue an Order of Conditions for 68 Pleasant Street (DEP File #234-772) by S. Farr, seconded by P. Oehlkers, approved 4-0-1 (S. Barber abstained).

190 EDGEWATER DRIVE – REQUEST FOR AMENDED ORDER OF CONDITIONS (DEP FILE #234-702)

J. Carter Bernardo opened the public hearing at 8:00 p.m.

Joe Webby of Webby Engineering along with the Project Manager, Doug Sherman explained the revisions to the proposed plan.

The proposed project has been scaled back from the original plan. All the proposed work will be located outside the floodplain. They are no longer proposing to install a pool. They plan to install a porch (addition) that will require a foundation to hold a proposed hot tub and fireplace, install a series of decks with impervious pavers beneath the decks for storage, removal of an existing deck and mitigation including installation of a cultec drywell that will tie-in some of the existing roof and all of the proposed roof. They had sent a copy of the filing to NHESP and received notice they had no issues with the project as proposed.

Motion to close the public hearing for 190 Edgewater Drive (DEP File #234-702) by S. Farr, seconded by P. Oehlkers, approved 4-0-0.

Motion to issue an Amended Order of Conditions for 190 Edgewater Drive (DEP File #234-702) by S. Farr, seconded by P. Oehlkers, approved 4-0-0.

OTHER BUSINESS:

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION PERMIT – 190 EDGEWATER DRIVE (DEP FILE #234-702)

M. Varrell recommended the Commission approve an Extension of the Permit for 190 Edgewater Drive (DEP File #234-702) for one year to complete the project as Amended. The Order of Conditions is due to expire on May 12, 2017.

Motion to approve an Extension of the Order of Conditions for 190 Edgewater Drive (DEP File #234-702) for one year to May 12, 2018 by S. Farr, seconded by P. Oehlkers, approved 4-0-0.

DISCUSSION ITEM – PROPOSED 2017 MEETING SCHEDULE

The Commission reviewed the proposed 2017 Conservation Commission Meeting Schedule. The only issue may be the March 9, 2017 Meeting which coincides with “Needham Unplugged.” The Commission will decide on this hearing closer to the date, depending on the number of applications/hearings in process.

DISCUSSION ITEM – COYOTE PRESENTATION

M. Varrell described a presentation he recently attended about the eastern coyote and how to co-exist with them. Needham appears to have a healthy population of coyotes. M. Varrell spoke with the presenter about giving her presentation to citizens from Needham on behalf of the Conservation Commission. She agreed to give the presentation for a fee of \$250. M. Varrell stated the money could come from the Commission’s operating budget. The Commission agreed. The presentation has been scheduled for February 16th at 7:00pm in the Charles River Room of PSAB. Publicity and site location for the presentation was discussed.

DISCUSSION ITEM – REVISIONS TO THE TOWN OF NEEDHAM WETLANDS PROTECTION BYLAW REGULATIONS

M. Varrell explained that he had drafted some potential revisions to the Town Wetlands Protection Bylaw Regulations for the Commission to review. The bulk of the revisions pertain to “exemptions” provided under the WPA Regulations and attempting to update the Town of Needham Regulations to more closely follow the state regulations as far as “exemptions” are concerned.

The Commission tabled the discussion of the potential revisions until the entire Commission is present.

DISCUSSION ITEM – MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION COMMISSIONERS (MACC) CONFERENCE

M. Varrell informed the Commission of the upcoming MACC Conference and provided the Commission with sign-up forms if they wish to attend. The Conference will take place on March 4, 2017 at College of the Holy Cross in Worcester.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by S. Farr, seconded by P. Oehlkers, approved 4-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING

Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 7:30 PM in the Public Services Administration Building, Charles River Room.