

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 14, 2019**

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

ATTENDING: Sue Barber, Artie Crocker, Stephen Farr, William Murphy, Alison Richardson, Deb Anderson (Director of Conservation), Clay Hutchinson (Conservation Specialist).

GUESTS: Judy Dein, Peter Murray, Ardi Rrapi, Bruce Ringwall, Diane Simonelli.

A. Crocker opened the public meeting at 7:30 p.m.

MINUTES: Minutes from the October 10, 2019 meeting were reviewed and amended.

Motion to approve the minutes of October 10, 2019 by S. Barber, seconded by W. Murphy, approved 4-0-1 (S. Farr abstained).

ENFORCEMENTS AND VIOLATIONS

None.

HEARINGS:

723 CHARLES RIVER STREET (DEP FILE #234-838) – *continued* NOTICE OF INTENT

A. Crocker opened the hearing at 7:52pm. Bruce Ringwall of GPR, Inc., presented the project. At the previous hearing on October 24, 2019, the Commission requested updated plans to include the Riverfront Area boundaries, the locations of the previously removed trees, a swale to direct stormwater along the western parcel boundary, revised erosion control specifications, and a revised planting plan. The Applicant submitted all the requested revised materials. Prior to the hearing a site walk was conducted with the Commission Members. At the hearing, the Applicant requested to remove two additional remaining trees, bringing the total number of trees removed from areas subject to jurisdiction to 11. The Commission requested that the Applicant leave a snag from one or both co-dominant stems of the remaining white pine tree.

Motion to close the public hearing for 723 Charles River Street (DEP File #234-838) by S. Farr, seconded by S. Barber, approved 5-0-0.

Motion to issue the Order of Conditions for 723 Charles River Street (DEP File #234-838) by S. Farr, seconded by S. Barber, approved 4-0-1 (W. Murphy abstained).

Motion to issue a violation fine of \$1700 for the unpermitted cutting of nine trees at 723 Charles River Street by S. Farr, seconded by S. Barber, approved 5-0-0.

475 SOUTH STREET (DEP FILE #234-840) – NOTICE OF INTENT

A. Crocker opened the hearing at 8:07pm. Diane Simonelli of Field Resources Inc. presented the project. The proposed work consists of the demolition of a single-family house and construction of a new single-family house, including the reconfiguration of the existing driveway and associated landscaping. Only the front of the property with portions of the driveway and landscaping area are within Buffer Zone for a Bordering Vegetated Wetland located across South Street. The proposed driveway reconfiguration will pitch most of the driveway runoff into a newly created vegetated area on the property along South Street. D. Simonelli reviewed the arborist report and stated that most of the trees were recommended for removal, however only three of the existing trees were requested to be removed. The Commission questioned the expected survivability of the remaining trees as driveway work and ground disturbance was proposed within close proximity. The Commission requested revised plans with more clear grading detail.

Motion to continue the public hearing for 475 South Street (DEP File #234-840) to December 12, 2019 at 7:45pm by S. Farr, seconded by S. Barber, approved 5-0-0.

OTHER BUSINESS:

585 CENTRAL AVENUE – SUNITA L WILLIAMS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (DEP FILE #234-787) – REQUEST FOR MINOR MODIFICATION

Hank Haff of the Needham Building Design and Construction Department and Steven Ventresca of Nitsch Engineering presented the requested minor modification. The modification proposed consists of an updated final site compensatory flood storage calculation. H. Haff explained that unforeseen layout problems during construction reduced the ability to provide greater compensatory flood storage. The final grades will still meet the minimum required compensatory flood storage but will not provide as much storage as originally proposed. The final calculations will be included on the as-built plans for the forthcoming Request for Certificate of Compliance process.

Motion to approve the Minor Modification requested for 585 Central Avenue – Sunita L Williams Elementary School (DEP File #234-787) by W. Murphy, seconded by S. Barber, approved 4-0-1 (S. Farr abstained).

28 MARR ROAD (DEP FILE #234-597) – REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

Staff had received a Request for Certificate of Compliance for the plantings at 28 Marr Road. D. Anderson stated that a partial Certificate of Compliance had previously been issued for all work except the successful plantings. The Applicant had submitted the final monitoring report which stated that only 8 of the 34 required shrubs were observed alive and in good condition, for which most of the plantings had been replaced. The Commission requested that an additional year of monitoring be performed for the replaced plantings to ensure their survival prior to the issuance of a full Certificate of Compliance.

Motion to deny the Certificate of Compliance for 28 Marr Road (DEP File #234-597) until completion of an additional year of monitoring by S. Farr, seconded by A. Richardson, approved 5-0-0.

80 COUNTRY WAY (DEP FILE #234-835) – REQUEST FOR MINOR MODIFICATION

Ardi Rrapi of Cheney Engineering presented the request for minor modification. The proposed changes consist of the elimination of the drainage field that was originally proposed under the driveway and the extension of the proposed retaining wall along the 25-foot Buffer Zone boundary to the back of the parcel. A. Rrapi explained that the drainage fields proposed in the front and back of the property will be installed as proposed and are

adequate to receive the additional stormwater. He also explained that no trees were proposed to be removed to extend the retaining wall to the back of the property.

Motion to approve the Minor Modification requested for 80 Country Way (DEP File #234-835) by S. Farr, seconded by S. Barber, approved 5-0-0.

ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn by S. Farr, seconded by A. Crocker, approved 5-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:58p.m.

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING:

December 12, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the Public Services Administration Building, Charles River Room.