

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, July 23, 2020**

Under Governor Baker's emergency "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c. 30A, S20," issued March 12, 2020 and in effect until termination of the emergency, 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: Janet Carter Bernardo (Chair), Sue Barber, Stephen Farr, William Murphy, Peter Oehlkers, Alison Richardson, Deb Anderson (Director of Conservation), Clay Hutchinson (Conservation Specialist).

GUESTS: Ryan Ball, Mark Cooperman, Kyle Macdonald, Robert Ouellet.

J. Carter Bernardo opened the public meeting at 7:30 p.m.

MINUTES: Minutes from the April 30, 2020 meeting and the May 14, 2020 meeting were reviewed and amended.

Motion to approve the minutes of April 30, 2020 by W. Murphy, seconded by A. Richardson, approved 5-0-1 (S. Farr abstained).

Motion to approve the minutes of May 14, 2020 by A. Richardson, seconded by W. Murphy, approved 4-0-2 (S. Farr and S. Barber abstained).

ENFORCEMENTS AND VIOLATIONS

1169 SOUTH STREET VIOLATION

Ryan Ball, the homeowner, was present for the discussion. D. Anderson explained that Conservation Staff were made aware of potential tree cutting and some fill brought in within Buffer Zone to a wetland at 1169 South Street. Upon a site inspection, it was determined that there was some clearing of vegetation and apparent plans to level and extend a yard area. R. Ball stated that the cleared vegetation was entirely taken over by bittersweet vines and was no longer healthy and noted that other trees had been marked for future removal. The Commission requested that Staff draft an Enforcement Order to be ratified at the next public meeting. The Enforcement Order will include requirements for immediate site stabilization and erosion control barriers, and a comprehensive Notice of Intent application to include previous and future work.

HEARINGS:

64 GAY STREET (DEP FILE #234-847) – NOTICE OF INTENT

Kyle Macdonald of Goddard Consulting LLC and Robert Ouellet of A. Francis Contracting were present for the hearing on behalf of the Applicant. The Applicant proposed to construct an addition to the garage and to replace a patio with a second addition to an existing single-family house within existing lawn area within the 100-foot Buffer Zone. Two subsurface drywells were proposed to capture roof runoff from the additions. A stockpile location was identified on the plans outside of Buffer Zone at the front of the property. The Commission requested

the plans be updated with topographic contours and adjustments to the drywell locations further into the existing lawn area and with consideration of the neighboring properties.

Motion to continue the hearing for 64 Gay Street (DEP File #234-847) to August 13, 2020, made by S. Farr, seconded by S. Barber, approved 6-0-0.

OTHER BUSINESS:

124 SOUTH STREET (DEP FILE #234-774) – REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

Mark Cooperman of EcoTerra Design and Consulting Inc. was present on behalf of the Applicant. M. Cooperman reviewed the completed work and mitigation area, including the construction of the sport-court area and drainage system below it, as well as the establishment of a native vegetation meadow and conversion of lawn to restored vegetated wetland area. The drainage area under the sport-court captures runoff from a catch basin in the driveway, tie-ins from the roof of the house, and the court itself. C. Hutchinson showed photos from a site visit and noted that the restoration plantings were installed as depicted on the plan. Staff recommended issuing a complete Certificate of Compliance.

Motion to issue a complete Certificate of Compliance for 124 South Street (DEP File #234-774) made by S. Farr, seconded by A. Richardson, approved 6-0-0.

CONSERVATION RESTRICTION – HEATHER LANE

D. Anderson stated that Conservation Staff had met with Planning Board Staff and some Commissioners about a Conservation Restriction that is expected to be included in a Planning Board Decision for Heather Lane. The meeting occurred on-site to walk the Riverfront Area with the Applicant. It may be unfeasible to include public access to the river within the language of the Conservation Restriction due to limited access for parking and related infrastructure on the property.

ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn by W. Murphy, seconded by S. Farr, approved 6-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:56p.m.

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING:

August 13, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. virtually broadcast through the Zoom Virtual Platform.