

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, September 24, 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, Artie Crocker, Stephen Farr, William Murphy, Peter Oehlkers, Alison Richardson, Deb Anderson (Director of Conservation), Clay Hutchinson (Conservation Specialist).

GUESTS: Karon Skinner Catrone, Simin Javaheri, Hank Haff, Richard Kirby, Dan McCarthy, John Rockwood, Ardi Rrapi, Gordon Russell, Tom Ryder.

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

MINUTES:

None.

ENFORCEMENTS AND VIOLATIONS

None.

HEARINGS:

WALKER LANE SEWER LINE – REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILITY

Tom Ryder, the Assistant Town Engineer, was presented the proposed work. T. Ryder stated that a sewer line was proposed within the existing roadway along Walker Lane. Erosion Control Barriers were proposed along the edge of the pavement on the wetland side of Walker Lane. The Commission asked if the individual connections from the sewer line to each residence was included in this proposal. T. Ryder stated that some of the connections were within the Buffer Zone and are included in this plan, but the decommissioning of septic systems on Walker Lane will be the responsibility of the homeowners. No dewatering was expected but in the event dewatering was necessary the Department of Public Works will provide a dewatering plan for approval.

Motion to close the hearing for the Walker Lane Sewer Line made by W. Murphy, seconded by S. Farr, approved 7-0-0.

Motion to issue a negative Determination of Applicability for the Walker Lane Sewer Line made by W. Murphy, seconded by S. Farr, approved 7-0-0.

764, 766, 768A, 768B CHESTNUT STREET, HEATHER LANE (DEP FILE #234-849) – NOTICE OF INTENT

Prior to the meeting, the Applicant requested that the hearing be continued to the October 8, 2020 meeting to allow additional time for updated materials.

Motion to continue the hearing for 764, 766, 768A, 768B Chestnut Street, Heather Lane (DEP File #234-849) to October 8, 2020 at 7:30pm made by A. Crocker, seconded by P. Oehlkers, approved 7-0-0.

OTHER BUSINESS:

585 CENTRAL AVE, SUNITA WILLIAMS SCHOOL (DEP FILE #234-787) – REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

S. Farr recused himself from the discussion due to a conflict of interest. The discussion was administratively continued to September 24, 2020 due to a lack of quorum. Hank Haff of the Needham Building and Construction Department and Richard Kirby of LEC Environmental were present for the discussion. R. Kirby reviewed the mitigation plantings and invasive species management as required by the Order of Conditions. Commission members previously walked the site to compare the as-built plans and inspect the mitigation planting health. Having completed the 2-year monitoring period for the mitigation plantings, Staff recommended issuance of the full Certificate of Compliance.

Motion to issue the Certificate of Compliance for 585 Central Avenue, Sunita Williams School (DEP File #234-787) made by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Barber, approved 6-0-0 (S. Farr was recused from the vote).

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

S. Farr rejoined the meeting. John Rockwood of EcoTec Inc was present for the discussion. J. Rockwood noted that the request was for a full Certificate of Compliance. The property had received a partial Certificate of Compliance last year but some of the mitigation plantings needed to be replanted. After an additional year of monitoring all of the replacement plantings were in good health. Staff recommended a full Certificate of Compliance.

Motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance for 28 Marr Road (DEP File #234-597) made by S. Farr, seconded by A. Crocker, approved 7-0-0.

12/62 BROOKSIDE ROAD (DEP FILE #234-765) – REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

John Rockwood of EcoTec Inc was present for the discussion. J. Rockwood stated that only some of the work was completed but a new Order of Conditions for the project was issued at a recent meeting and reviewed the Special Conditions that were rolled-over into the new Order of Conditions. The closing of this Order would tie up the loose ends as the new Order has been approved and recorded at the Registry of Deeds. D. Anderson requested information on a well that was proposed and J. Rockwood noted that it would need to be amended or modified under the new Order of Conditions if it is needed in the future. Staff recommended the issuance of a full Certificate of Compliance.

Motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance for 12/62 Brookside Road (DEP File #234-765) made by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Farr, approved 7-0-0.

80 COUNTRY WAY (DEP FILE #234-835) – REQUEST FOR PARTIAL CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

Ardi Rrapi of Cheney Engineering and Sharon Skinner Catrone, the wetland consultant, were present for the discussion. The Commission had requested at the previous meeting that the stormwater calculations for the additional patio be provided and that the Applicant receive a signed acknowledgement from the future homeowner that they understand the mitigation plant monitoring requirements. D. Anderson stated that Staff received the acknowledgement from the new homeowners. A. Rrapi stated that the stormwater units that were installed were capable of assuming the additional stormwater from the patio in the 2-year storm event calculations.

Motion to issue a Partial Certificate of Compliance for 80 Country Way (DEP File #234-835) made by S. Farr, seconded by A. Crocker, approved 6-0-1 (S. Barber abstained).

RIDGE HILL REQUEST

Staff Received a request for use of Ridge Hill Reservation for October 3, 2020. The proposed activity was for a dance and yoga event of fewer than 10 people to comply with Covid Restrictions. D. Anderson stated that Staff also forwarded the request to the Town Manager's Office to ensure that the proposed use of Ridge Hill Reservation was in compliance with Needham's Covid Restriction. The Commission requested Staff issue the approval for use of Ridge Hill Reservation and make them aware of the local policies for the property.

ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn by W. Murphy, seconded by S. Farr, approved 7-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37p.m.

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING:

October 8, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. virtually broadcast through the Zoom Virtual Platform.