

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 19, 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 (joined at 8:05pm) Artie Crocker, Stephen Farr, William Murphy, Peter Oehlkers, Alison Richardson, Deb Anderson (Director of Conservation), Clay Hutchinson (Conservation Specialist).

GUESTS: Jon Batchelder, Cynthia Conturie, Michael Crowe, Michael Cyganiewicz, Joyce Hastings, Jesse Johnson, Koby Kempel, Rich Kirby, Brandon Li, Kyle MacDonald, Colleen Mutrie, Jake Mutrie, David Nectow, Stacey Nectow, Robert Ouellet, John Parsons, Kyle Parsons, Robert Petit, Bruce Ringwall, Bob Roach, Ardi Rapi, Chirag Shah, Diane Simonelli, Brian Timm, Jonathan Trahan, Wes Wirth, Emma Smith Zbarsky.

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

MINUTES:

Minutes from the June 11, 2020, meeting were reviewed.

Motion to approve the minutes of June 11, 2020, by W. Murphy, seconded by A. Richardson, approved 7-0-0.

Minutes from the June 25, 2020, meeting were reviewed.

Motion to approve the minutes of June 25, 2020, by S. Farr, seconded by A. Richardson, approved 7-0-0.

ENFORCEMENTS AND VIOLATIONS:

None.

HEARINGS:

56 BLACKSMITH DRIVE (DEP FILE #234-850) – NOTICE OF INTENT

Kyle MacDonald of Goddard Consulting was present for the hearing. K. MacDonald summarized the revised plans with the updated rain garden infiltration swale offset 5 feet from the stream bank to capture stormwater runoff.

Motion to close the hearing for 56 Blacksmith Drive (DEP File #234-850) by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Farr, approved 6-0-0.

182 & 190 EDGEWATER DRIVE (DEP FILE #234-853) – NOTICE OF INTENT

Wes Wirth, the landscape designer, Kyle MacDonald of Goddard Consulting, Ardi Rrapi of Cheney Engineer, and David Nectow, the Applicant, were present for the hearing. The hearing had been continued to allow for a site visit by the Commission Members and for issuance of a DEP File Number. A. Rrapi and W. Wirth reviewed the updated plans showing the existing trees, trees that are proposed for removal, planting list, and stormwater layouts. A. Rrapi stated that soil test pits cannot be conducted because the property at 182 Brookside Road had not been purchased yet. J. Carter Bernardo requested a Special Condition be added to the Order of Conditions to require the Applicant to come back before the Commission for approval of the final stormwater system prior to constructing the tennis court.

Motion to close the hearing for 182 & 190 Edgewater Drive (DEP File #234-853) by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Farr, approved 6-0-1 (S. Barber abstained).

Motion to issue the Order of Conditions for 182 & 190 Edgewater Drive (DEP File #234-853) by S. Farr, seconded by A. Richardson, approved 5-0-2 (S. Barber and P. Oehlkers abstained).

54 PHEASANT LANDING ROAD (DEP FILE #234-856) – NOTICE OF INTENT

The hearing had been continued awaiting the issuance of a DEP File Number. A DEP File Number had not been issued in time for the November 19 public meeting.

Motion to continue the hearing for 54 Pheasant Landing Road (DEP File #234-856) to December 3, 2020, at 7:30pm by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Farr, approved 6-0-0.

10 WINFIELD STREET (DEP FILE #234-852) – NOTICE OF INTENT

Diane Simonelli of Field Resources Inc. and Bob Roach, the Applicant, were present for the hearing. The hearing had been continued for issuance of the DEP File Number and receipt of an alternatives analysis. Revised materials were received prior to the hearing. The Commission requested that the Order of Conditions contain a Special Condition that final site grading does not channel water runoff to the neighboring property.

Motion to close the hearing for 10 Winfield Street (DEP File #234-852) by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Farr, approved 6-0-0.

Motion to issue the Order of Conditions for 10 Winfield Street (DEP File #234-852) by S. Farr, seconded by A. Richardson, approved 5-0-2 (S. Barber and P. Oehlkers abstained).

74 & 80 ROBINWOOD AVENUE (DEP FILE #234-854) – NOTICE OF INTENT

Brian Timm of R J O'Connell and Associates and Rich Kirby of LEC Environmental were present for the hearing. J. Carter Bernardo noted that she and C. Hutchinson had conducted a site visit to the property with the homeowners to discuss alleviating flooding and backup of stormwater behind the property in the Summer of 2020. B. Timm reviewed the existing site conditions including the existing single-family houses at 74 and at 80 Robinwood Avenue and a drainage pipe and pump in the side yard at 74 Robinwood Avenue. R. Kirby reviewed the wetland delineation and proposed drainage structures to alleviate flooding.

The drainage structures will include subsurface perforated piping with an inlet situated above the wetland line connecting to an existing drainage system under Robinwood Avenue. The inlet structure will be prefaced by a small rip-rap berm to prevent debris from entering the piping. The piping will also connect to a second existing infiltration structure in the yard between 74 and 80 Robinwood Avenue. A gravel sublayer will be laid under the

perforated piping. An abutter to the project commented that there is a spring that runs behind the neighborhood and daylights to before the wetland abutting 74 Robinwood Avenue.

Motion to close the hearing for 74 & 80 Robinwood Avenue (DEP File #234-854) by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Farr, approved 7-0-0.

Motion to issue the Order of Conditions for 74 & 80 Robinwood Avenue (DEP File #234-854) by P. Oehlkers, seconded by W. Murphy, approved 5-0-0.

766 CHESTNUT STREET (DEP FILE #234-858) – NOTICE OF INTENT

Joyce Hastings of GLM Engineering was present for the hearing. The Notice of Intent was an after-the-fact permit application as required by an Enforcement Order for the unpermitted cutting of trees at the property. As required by the Enforcement Order, J. Hastings reviewed the trees that had been cut and their locations relative to the Bordering Vegetated Wetland and Isolated Vegetated Wetland. 22 trees were identified as removed from within the Buffer Zones. J. Hastings presented a planting plan consisting of 50 native trees and 48 native shrubs to be planted as replacement and mitigation for the unpermitted tree removals. The hearing was continued to await the issuance of a DEP File Number.

Motion to continue the hearing for 766 Chestnut Street (DEP File #234-858) to December 3, 2021, at 7:30pm by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Farr, approved 7-0-0.

OTHER BUSINESS:

479 DEDHAM AVENUE (DEP FILE #234-762) – REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

Emma Smith Zbarsky, the Applicant, was present for the discussion. E. Zbarsky stated that a partial Certificate of Compliance was issued prior to their purchase of the property. They had since submitted the required mitigation planting monitoring reports. D. Anderson stated that only 70% of the mitigation plantings had survived but the area had been fully re-established with natural vegetation, recommending the issuance of a full Certificate of Compliance.

Motion to issue the Certificate of Compliance for 479 Dedham Avenue (DEP File #234-762) by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Farr, approved 7-0-0.

10-16 CHARLES STREET (DEP FILE #234-727) – REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

Jon Batchelder of Wallace Property Management was present for the discussion. A partial Certificate of Compliance had been issued for the property. J. Batchelder noted that they were no longer the owner of the property but had still been submitting the monitoring reports for the mitigation plantings. D. Anderson stated that the plantings looked good and had met the survival requirements, recommending a full Certificate of Compliance.

Motion to issue the Certificate of Compliance for 10-16 Charles Street (DEP File #234-727) by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Farr, approved 7-0-0.

56 PERSHING ROAD (DEP FILE #234-839) – REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

Jesse Johnson of Bohler Engineering was present for the discussion. J. Johnson reviewed the completed work including the demolition and reconstruction of the single-family house, installation of the stormwater unit, and stabilization of the site. The required plantings had been installed but required a 2-year monitoring period. C.

Hutchinson stated he had confirmed the site conditions and recommended the issuance of a partial Certificate of Compliance for all work except the required plant monitoring.

Motion to issue a Partial Certificate of Compliance for 56 Perching Road (DEP File #234-767) by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Farr, approved 7-0-0.

1968 CENTRAL STREET, WALKER SCHOOL (DEP FILE #234-804) – REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

Brandon Li of Kelly Engineering was present for the discussion. B. Li reviewed the completed work and noted deviations that included the enlargement of the multi-purpose building and additional stormwater chambers from what was proposed. 2 maple trees were planted as replacement for the 1 tree removed. D. Anderson stated that the calculations were received for the enlargement and recommended the issuance of the Certificate of Compliance.

Motion to issue the Certificate of Compliance for 1968 Central Street, Walker School (DEP File #234-804) by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Farr, approved 7-0-0.

POSSIBLE EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT – RIDGE HILL STAIRS PROJECT

C. Hutchinson showed photos of the stairway connecting the Esker Trail to the Swamp Trail at Ridge Hill Reservation. The stairway was showing signs of erosion into the wetland below and needs repair and stabilization. C. Hutchinson asked the Commission about their confidence level to work with an Eagle Scout candidate to restore the stairway as an Eagle Scout Project using the best management practices in the *AMC Complete Guide to Trail Building and Maintenance*. The Commission was OK with working with a Scout to design and work on a stairway repair pending future approval on design by the Commission.

ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn by A. Crocker, seconded by W. Murphy, approved 7-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 10:11p.m.

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING:

December 3, 2020, at 7:30 p.m. virtually broadcast through the Zoom Virtual Platform.