

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, June 10, 2021**

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, Peter Oehlkers, Deb Anderson (Director of Conservation), Clay Hutchinson (Conservation Specialist).

GUESTS: Robert Buitta, Karon Skinner Catrone, Lisa Daly, Tom Daly, Angela Depaul, Federico Grossi, Paul Hemond, Cindy Macgowan, Diane Simonelli.

J. Carter Bernardo opened the public meeting at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES:

Minutes from the October 22, 2020 meeting were reviewed and amended.

Motion to approve the minutes of October 22, 2020 by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Barber, approved 5-0-0.

Minutes from the November 19, 2020 meeting were reviewed and amended.

Motion to approve the minutes of November 19, 2020 by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Farr, approved 5-0-0.

ENFORCEMENTS AND VIOLATIONS:

None.

HEARINGS:

381 SOUTH STREET (DEP FILE #234-866) – *continued* NOTICE OF INTENT

Federico Grossi, the Applicant, was present for the hearing. The hearing had been continued for an updated wetlands report, test pit information, and revised planting plan. F. Grossi reviewed the revised planting plan and proposed locations for the Atlantic white cedars. The Commission requested that they be located outside of the drainage easement to ensure they can be preserved without interfering with the drainage area. F. Grossi stated that he had dug the test pits himself to check for high groundwater. J. Carter Bernardo requested that Staff include a Special Condition to have the test pit re-dug and inspected by a qualified professional prior to the commencement of work. Included in the updated materials were also a waiver for work within the 25-foot Buffer Zone for the proposed plantings, as well as a request to waive the waiver fee.

Motion to close the hearing for 381 South Street (DEP File #234-866) by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Farr, approved 5-0-0.

Motion to issue a waiver for work within the 25-Foot Buffer Zone for 381 South Street (DEP File #234-866) by S. Farr, seconded by S. Barber, approved 5-0-0.

Motion to waive the waiver fee for work within the 25-Foot Buffer Zone for 381 South Street (DEP File #234-866) by S. Farr, seconded by S. Barber, approved 5-0-0.

Motion to issue the Order of Conditions for 381 South Street (DEP File #234-866) by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Farr, 5-0-0.

1625 GREAT PLAIN AVENUE (DEP FILE #234-869) – NOTICE OF INTENT

Cindy Macgowan, the Applicant, Paul Hemond, the builder, and Karon Skinner Catrone, the wetland consultant, were present for the hearing. The proposed work included the construction of an addition to the existing single-family house, construction of a deck, and installation of a sub-surface stormwater infiltration unit. The work was proposed approximately 25-feet from an Intermittent Stream and associated Bordering Vegetated Wetland. K. Skinner Catrone noted that flagging had not been placed on the other side of the stream because work was limited to one side. P. Hemond reviewed the scope of work and site conditions. J. Carter Bernardo noted that a DEP File Number had not been issued, and requested test pit information for the proposed location of the stormwater unit for the next hearing.

Motion to continue the hearing for 1625 Great Plain Avenue (DEP File #234-869) to June 24, 2021, at 7:00pm by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Farr, approved 5-0-0.

3 MARY CHILTON ROAD – REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILITY

Lisa and Tom Daly, the Applicants, and Robert Buitta, the Contractor, were present for the hearing. The proposed work included the conversion of lawn to a pervious patio within the 50-foot Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetland. R. Buitta reviewed the patio specifications and stated that the remaining lawn area would be re-established with sod. C. Hutchinson reviewed the site history from a previous filing and noted that most of the patio footprint was underneath an impervious deck, where vegetation has not been able to establish. The Commission requested that the Applicants refrain from any future use of fertilizers in the backyard and to ensure the patio does not encroach into the 25-foot Buffer Zone.

Motion to close the hearing for 3 Mary Chilton Road by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Barber, approved 5-0-0.

Motion to issue a negative Determination of Applicability, with the special condition that no fertilizers be used in the backyard, by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Farr, approved 5-0-0.

14 BLACKSMITH ROAD (DEP FILE #234-868) – NOTICE OF INTENT

Angela Depaul, the Applicant, and Diane Simonelli, of Field Resources, were present for the hearing. The proposed work included the installation of a lap pool and associated patio, and an addition to an existing single-family house within the 100-foot Buffer Zone to a Bordering Vegetated Wetland and outer Riparian Zone to Rosemary Brook. A subsurface stormwater unit was proposed to capture runoff associated with the addition. The patio was proposed to be pervious pavers. All work was proposed within lawn area and no vegetation was proposed to be removed. Five blueberry bushes were proposed along the back property line closest to the Bordering Vegetated Wetland behind the house. The Commission requested that test pit data be certified by a qualified professional for the area where the subsurface stormwater unit was proposed prior to Staff issuing the Order of Conditions.

Motion to close the hearing for 14 Blacksmith Road (DEP File #234-868) by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Barber, approved 5-0-0.

Motion to issue the Order of Conditions for 14 Blacksmith Road (DEP File #234-868) by S. Barber, seconded by S. Farr, approved 5-0-0.

ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Farr, approved 5-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:48p.m.

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING:

June 24, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. virtually broadcast through the Zoom Virtual Platform.