

TOWN OF NEEDHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 25, 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: Artie Crocker, Stephen Farr, Peter Oehlkers, Alison Richardson, Deb Anderson (Director of Conservation), Clay Hutchinson (Conservation Specialist).

P. Oehlkers opened the public meeting at 7:00 p.m.

HEARINGS/APPOINTMENTS

317 DEDHAM AVENUE – REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILITY

Susan McArthur, McArthur Environmental Consulting, LLC, stated that the 0.23-acre lot contains a two-story single-family home with a driveway that runs alongside the property, circling to the back. There is a perennial stream located just off the property, within a concrete channel. The bank of the stream was delineated. The entire lot is within riverfront area. The proposal is to repave the driveway and add a raised balcony off the back of the house. This will have two 12" diameter footings. There will be steps leading down to the driveway. These proposed areas are within existing pavement. Existing concrete steps leading to the front door are proposed to be changed into a portico.

C. Hutchinson stated that the existing driveway is in rough shape and the proposed items are within existing paved areas. This project is minor in nature.

Sheila Scott, neighbor, asked if the balcony will be attached to the existing deck. S. McArthur stated that these will be separate.

Motion to close the hearing for 317 Dedham Avenue, by S. Farr, seconded by A. Crocker, approved 4-0-0.

Motion to issue a negative Determination of Applicability for 317 Dedham Avenue, by S. Farr, seconded by A. Crocker, approved 4-0-0.

94 BROOKSIDE ROAD (DEP FILE #234-861) – NOTICE OF INTENT

S. McArthur explained that in October 2020 she delineated the wetland resource areas for the 0.90-acre site. An existing house burnt down in May 2019 and the property has been abandoned since that time. There is an existing chain-link fence around the foundation and another around the perimeter for safety. Elevations on the site range from 100' to 81'. There is a large marshy

area in the back of the site. The proposal is to construct a new house within some of the existing foundation's footprint, being extended toward the roadway and away from the wetland. Also, the owner would like to keep a chain-link fence around the back of the property. A 10'x15' deck on posts is also proposed in the backyard. There are some scorched trees on the property which are proposed to be removed. A stormwater management system and erosion controls are proposed on the property. Approximately six 2" caliper trees are proposed to be planted along the back property line. The FEMA flood zone extends through the backyard and a small portion of the infiltration chamber is proposed within it.

Tim Paris, engineer for the project, stated that the new septic system will be placed close to the roadway and will involve minimal grading. The edge of the driveway will be reshaped and extended to the northeast a bit. The septic tank and pump chamber are proposed on the side of the house. An infiltration is proposed at the back of the property and the roof runoff will be diverted to this area.

P. Oehlkers expressed some concern with the level of details on the plan, specifically regarding the health of some of the existing trees. He also asked if removal of some of the trees on the property could disturb existing slopes.

The Commission agreed to a site walk at a later date. It was determined that more information was needed about the trees and environment, a form for work within the 25' no disturb zone and associated fees, and potential additional Commissioner comments regarding stormwater items.

Motion to continue the hearing for 94 Brookside Road (DEP File #234-861) to March 11, 2021, at request of the applicant, by S. Farr, seconded by A. Crocker, approved 4-0-0.

OTHER BUSINESS:

130 SOUTH STREET (DEP FILE #234-752) – REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

Diane Simonelli, Field Resources, explained that no delineations have yet been done on the site due to time of year. The owner paid for someone to plant and monitor seven restoration trees on the property as part of a previous order.

P. Oehlkers expressed concern regarding monitoring reports that were not previously completed. D. Anderson explained that this site contained monitoring as it was an enforcement order. Staff has a hard time obtaining monitoring reports.

Motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance for 130 South Street (DEP File #234-752), by S. Farr, seconded by A. Crocker, approved 4-0-0.

30 TAYLOR STREET (DEP FILE #234-860) – continued APPROVAL OF ORDER OF CONDITIONS

Motion to issue an Order of Conditions for 30 Taylor Street (DEP File #234-860), by S. Farr, seconded by A. Crocker, approved 4-0-0.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS –

1. Minutes

None at this time.

2. Enforcement & Violation Updates

None at this time.

ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn the meeting, by A. Crocker, seconded by S. Farr, approved 4-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING:

March 11, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. location to be determined.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Kristan Patenaude*