

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, September 27, 2012**

LOCATION: Public Services Administration Building, Charles River Room

ATTENDING: Lisa Standley (Chair), Paul Alpert, Janet Bernardo, Stephen Farr, Marsha Salett, Sharon Soltzberg, Dawn Stolfi Stalenhoeft, Debbie Anderson (Acting Agent), Marita Klements (Acting Assistant)

GUESTS: Karen Skinner Catrone, Mikhail Deychman, David Godelf, Peter Grabler, John Hollywood, Mary & Angela Hughes, Michael Lenahan, William P. Lenahan, George Mariani, Stephen O'Brien, Vincent Roy, Thomas Ryder, Ruth & Rick Scully, Jason Stowe, Andrew Weaver

L. Standley opened the public meeting at 7:35 PM.

MINUTES

Motion to approve the Minutes of August 9, 2012 as amended by J. Bernardo, seconded by P. Alpert, approved 7-0-0.

Motion to approve the Minutes of August 23, 2012 as amended by S. Soltzberg, seconded by D. Stolfi Stalenhoeft, approved 7-0-0.

Motion to approve the Minutes of September 13, 2012 as amended by M. Salett, seconded by P. Alpert, approved 7-0-0.

ENFORCEMENTS

1516 CENTRAL AVENUE – RATIFICATION OF ENFORCEMENT ORDER

P. Alpert explained the reason for the Enforcement action to members of the Commission not present at the previous meeting. The property owner has begun work on a driveway within the buffer zone without a permit. At the September 13th meeting, the Commission voted to issue an Enforcement Order to require the owner to stop work and install erosion controls, and to issue a fine to the property owner totaling \$900.00 for unpermitted work in three (3) resource areas. William Lenahan, Esq., attorney for the contractor, described the project for the Commission, and stated that Field Resources had been retained to prepare a NOI. The Commission voted to ratify the Enforcement Order and advised Mr. Lenahan that the homeowner is required to file a Notice of Intent Application with the Commission to permit the driveway work.

Motion to ratify the Enforcement Order for 1516 Central Avenue by P. Alpert, seconded by S. Farr, approved 7-0-0.

HEARINGS

100 WILSON LANE (DEP FILE # 234-647) – NOTICE OF INTENT CONTINUED

L. Standley opened the public hearing at 7:50pm. G. Mariani of Sanford Environmental briefly presented the minor changes to the Plan which included a revised sewer alignment and revised planting plan.. The Applicant, Mr. O'Brien, explained that he was waiting for a Permit from the MWRA. The proposed Plan includes the removal of nine (9) dead trees and the replacement of between nine (9) and eighteen (18) trees depending on site constraints.

Motion to close the public hearing for 100 Wilson Lane (DEP File #234-647) by P. Alpert, seconded by J. Bernardo, approved 7-0-0. Motion to issue an Order of Conditions, as amended, for 100 Wilson Lane (DEP File #234-647) by J. Bernardo, seconded by P. Alpert, approved 7-0-0. Motion to waive strict compliance with the Bylaw Regulations for work in the 25-foot buffer zone by P. Alpert, seconded by S. Farr, approved 7-0-0.

71 STOCKDALE ROAD (DEP FILE #234-651) – NOTICE OF INTENT

L. Standley opened the public hearing at 8:00pm. The Applicant's Representative, Karen Skinner Catrone presented the proposed project to the Commission. The Applicant intends to raze the existing house and construct a new single family house. The two retaining walls discussed in the Notice of Intent are no longer proposed. A fence is proposed along the rear of the property at the wetland line. The fence will be raised 4 inches off the ground to allow wildlife to pass through and to protect the wetland and intermittent stream that runs along the rear of the property. The Applicant proposes to remove an existing overgrown lawn and install sod within the entire 25-foot buffer zone. There are two proposed dispersion trenches on either side of the house to capture roof run off. The Applicant proposes to spread wetland seed mix and to install wetland shrubs and trees in the wetland for mitigation. J. Bernardo explained that she was concerned about the proposed grading along the sides of the property and the impact to the neighbors from changes to drainage. The Applicant, Mikhail Deychman, explained that he was no longer proposing any grading and that the Commission does not have the most up to date plan. The Commission asked that the Applicant clarify their waiver request and submit the most up-to-date plans. They further determined that a site visit will be needed on this proposed project. **Motion to continue the public hearing for 71 Stockdale Road (DEP File #234-651) to October 11th, at 7:45 PM by S. Farr, seconded by J. Bernardo, approved 7-0-0.**

1285 SOUTH STREET (DEP FILE #234-499) – REQUEST TO AMEND THE ORDER OF CONDITIONS

L. Standley opened the public hearing at 8:14pm. The hearing had been continued from the September 13th meeting for the Applicant to obtain a letter from the abutter granting permission to remove portions of the pool deck and driveway from their property. J. Hollywood presented the Commission with the requested letter.

Motion to close the public hearing for 1285 South Street (DEP File #234-499) by D. Stolfi Stalenhoef, seconded by J. Bernardo, approved 6-0-0. The public hearing was closed at 8:31pm. Motion to waive strict compliance with the Bylaw Regulations for work in the 25-foot buffer zone by P. Alpert, seconded by S. Farr, approved 6-0-0. Motion to issue an Order of Conditions, as amended, for 1285 South Street (DEP File #234-499) by P. Alpert, seconded by S. Soltzberg, approved 6-0-0.

180 STANDISH ROAD (DEP FILE # 234-639) – REQUEST TO AMEND THE ORDER OF CONDITIONS Continued

L. Standley opened the public hearing at 8:32pm. The hearing was continued from September 13, 2012 to allow the Commission to review the revised plans submitted at that hearing. The Commission had no further questions.

Motion to close the public hearing for 180 Standish Road (DEP File #234-639) by S. Farr, seconded by D. Stolfi Stalenhoef, approved 7-0-0. The public hearing was closed at 8:35pm. Motion to issue an Amended Order of Conditions for 180 Standish Road (DEP File #234-639) by J. Bernardo, seconded by P. Alpert, approved 7-0-0.

PERRY DRIVE & MARKED TREE ROAD (ROSEMARY GLEN) (DEP FILE #234-652) – NOTICE OF INTENT

L. Standley opened the public hearing at 8:35pm. Tom Ryder, Assistant Town Engineer, presented the project. The purpose of the project is to improve the existing water quality associated with stormwater runoff that enters into an intermittent stream portion of Rosemary Brook off of Perry Drive. The proposed improvements include repaving and regrading the roadway and upgrading the existing stormwater drainage system. The proposed work is to add a 3,000-gallon settling tank with a special catch basin cover, which stirs up the water to add oxygen. The storm water tank will allow oil and sediment to settle, rather than run into the stream. Erosion controls will be hay bales. Two or possibly three trees will need to be removed as they are growing into the overhead wires. The proposal includes the installation of highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*) shrubs in lieu of the trees, as they will not grow into the wires. L. Standley questioned where they were proposing to install the bushes as the bank of the stream is armored. T. Ryder suggested installing them where the trees will be removed or perhaps another location if the Commission would prefer. The Commission agreed to discuss the location further. S. Farr noted that the settling tank would function better if the catch basin discharged into the second chamber of the tank.

Ruth & Rick Scully, Mary & Angela Hughes and David Gotthelf, residents from the Perry Drive area, asked Mr. Ryder to clarify the effect these changes will have on the neighborhood, especially on the water flow, and why these changes are being made now. T. Ryder explained that the changes are part of an ongoing water quality improvement effort throughout the town. Aside from the trees that will be removed there will be no changes to the landscape. Any repaving will be done where ~~it~~ paving currently exists. The changes to the water system are anticipated to decrease flooding and reduce sediment that currently washes into the brook. Vincent Roy, Superintendent of the Needham Water & Sewer Division, explained that there is a mandate from the EPA to improve water quality discharge. He added that his department is creating a cleaning schedule database to ensure each location is cleaned as necessary. The tank will be cleaned on a regular schedule using a clamshell excavator or Vac Truck. A resident inquired if they plan on cleaning out the brook and removing old fallen trees. Mr. Ryder explained that this was not part of the current project. L. Standley suggested that they could amend the NOI to include the removal of debris between Marked Tree Road and the new catch basin. The hearing was continued as no DEP file number had been issued.

Motion to continue the public hearing for Perry Drive and Marked Tree Road (DEP File #234-652) to October 11, 2012, at 8:00 PM by M. Salett, seconded by S. Soltzberg, approved 7-0-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

178 HIGH ROCK STREET (DEP FILE # 234-630) – CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE REQUEST

At the request of the Applicant, the Certificate of Compliance Request will be postponed until the site is stabilized.

VARIOUS CULVERT LOCATIONS (DEP FILE #234-547) – DPW GENERAL REPAIR/MAINTENANCE ACTIVITY NOTIFICATION

Vincent Roy, Superintendent of the Town of Needham Water & Sewer Division presented the proposed culvert cleaning projects located at several sites in the Town. Mr. Roy had submitted photographs of the 5 locations where the DPW proposes to conduct maintenance. L. Standley requested that he submit a map of the locations as well. The Commission determined that the maintenance proposed at: (1) Rosemary Brook behind 10 Winfield Street; (2) Fuller Brook behind 1626 Great Plain Avenue; (3) Alder Brook on South Street @ Dedham Avenue and (4) Un-named brook at Walker Pond on Central Avenue can be carried out under the Needham DPW (DEP File #234-630) General Repair/Maintenance permit. The Commission determined that any work on Rosemary Brook behind 39 Border Road requires a separate Notice of Intent filing because the channel has become a vegetated wetland.

Motion to approve the DPW General Repair/Maintenance Activity Notification (DEP File #234-547) with the exception of the proposed maintenance to Rosemary Brook behind 39 Border Road by M. Salett, seconded by J. Bernardo, approved 7-0-0.

500 DEDHAM AVENUE (DEP FILE #234-547) – MINOR MODIFICATION REQUEST

Vincent Roy, Superintendent of the Town of Needham Water & Sewer Division presented the proposed plans to the Commission to install a Xeriscape Landscape in front of the water building at 486 Dedham Avenue. The proposal requires the removal of sod and the installation of a raised bed approximately 30' x 15' oval in shape, install the plantings and apply a layer of organic mulch around the plants. Mr. Roy explained that the purpose of the project is to present an example of water conserving landscaping to the Town.

Motion to approve the project as a minor modification not requiring an Amendment of the Order by J. Bernardo, seconded by D. Stolfi Stalenhoeft, approved 7-0-0.

RIDGE HILL RESERVATION – ILLEGAL HUNTING ISSUES

The town has prepared metal No Hunting signs which will be posted on town properties. L. Standley has written an article to be published in the local paper and posted at the kiosk at the entrance to Ridge Hill. The article will serve to advise residents what to do in case illegal hunters are seen, and to keep their dogs on leashes. She intends to show it to the Town Manager and the Chief of Police for review/.

**Motion to adjourn the meeting by M. Salett, seconded by S. Soltzberg, approved 7-0-0.
The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 PM.**

NEXT PUBLIC HEARING

October 11, 2012, 7:30 PM in the Public Services Administration Building, Charles River Room