

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, June 11, 2009**

LOCATION: Needham Public Library

ATTENDING: Lisa Standley, Janet Bernardo, Sharon Soltzberg, Marsha Salett, Paul Alpert, Dawn Stolfi Stalenhoef, Kristen Phelps (Agent)

GUESTS: Elizabeth Bradley, Carolyn Bradley, Carla Verschoer-Kirss, Lorri Lefrers, Mitch Hallal, Connie Barr, Ralph Feinberg, Darlynn Halliday, Tom Halliday, Jane Swett, Margaret Blakelock, Christopher Coleman

L. Standley opened the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

0 CENTRAL AVENUE / HEMLOCK GORGE (DEP File # 234-557) – ABBREVIATED NOTICE OF INTENT

L. Standley opened the continued public hearing at 7:45 p.m. She noted that the only outstanding issue on this application was the issuance of a DEP File # which has now been obtained. **Motion to close the public hearing for DEP File # 234-557 by Janet Bernardo, seconded by Paul Alpert, approved 6-0-0.** The Commission reviewed the draft Order of Conditions. **Motion to issue the Order of Conditions for DEP File # 234-557 by Janet Bernardo, seconded by Paul Alpert, approved 6-0-0.**

0 CHARLES RIVER STREET (BYLAW ONLY) – NOTICE OF INTENT

L. Standley opened the continued public hearing at 7:47 p.m. She stated that the Applicant had submitted a written request for a continuance until the Commission's next regularly scheduled meeting to allow them time to respond to the questions raised at the last hearing on this matter. **Motion to continue the public hearing for 0 Charles River Street to June 25, 2009 at 7:45 p.m. by Paul Alpert, seconded by Janet Bernardo, approved 6-0-0.**

112 EDGEWATER DRIVE (DEP File # 234-534) – REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT

L. Standley opened the continued public hearing at 8:00 p.m. Property owner Ralph Feinberg was present. He submitted revised plans (at the meeting) and explained that the new plan showed the limits of resource areas and the proposed swale requested by the Commission. J. Bernardo commented that the grading shown on the revised plan is not consistent with the original amendment request and that the proposed swale was incompatible with the swale. L. Standley stated that only a portion of the information requested at the last meeting was shown on the new plan. The Commission reviewed the revised plan and pointed out several deficiencies. L. Standley summarized the changes that the Applicant would need to make to the plan in order for the Commission to assess the amendment request, including: (1) existing and proposed grading; (2) limit of work/erosion control line; and (3) a properly designed swale located beyond the limit of grading.

Connie Barr of 205 Edgewater Drive asked why a second swale on the other side of the house was not proposed. L. Standley explained that the amendment would result in less alteration of this side of the property and that the distance from the proposed work to the north side of the house was significantly greater than the distance between the proposed work and the property line to the south of the dwelling. She added that the work proposed to the south of the existing dwelling would create a smaller impact under the amended plan and would not result in a change to the direction of surface water flows. **Motion to continue**

the public hearing on the Amendment Request for DEP File # 234-534 (for revised plan) to June 25, 2009 at 8:15 p.m. by Paul Alpert, seconded by Janet Bernardo, approved 6-0-0. The Commission scheduled a site visit for June 15, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

COMMISSION ACTIONS

GIRL SCOUT PROJECTS / MITCHELL WOODS – Generic Trails Maintenance Request
Girl Scout Gold Award candidates Carolyn and Elizabeth Bradley were present to request permission to undertake trail clearing and boardwalk installation at Mitchell Woods under the Generic Trails Maintenance Determination of Applicability. E. Bradley explained that their project came out of the Trails Master Plan and involved removing fallen trees and limbs from the existing trails; clearing the trails and surrounding areas of trash and debris, and installing two (2) eight-foot bog bridges on a seasonally wet portion of the trail. **Motion to approve the proposed work at Mitchell Woods under the Generic Trails Maintenance Determination of Applicability by Janet Bernardo, seconded by Marsha Salett, approved 6-0-0.**

449 SOUTH STREET (DEP File # 234-556) – Issue Order of Conditions
The Commission reviewed the draft Order of Conditions. **Motion to issue the Order of Conditions for DEP File # 234-556 by Janet Bernardo, seconded by Sharon Soltzberg, approved 6-0-0.**

182 EDGEWATER DRIVE (DEP File # 234-555) – Issue Order of Conditions
The Commission reviewed the draft Order of Conditions. **Motion to issue the Order of Conditions for DEP File # 234-555 by Paul Alpert, seconded by Marsha Salett, approved 6-0-0.**

449 SOUTH STREET (DEP File # 234-543) – Request for Certificate of Compliance
K. Phelps confirmed that the deed restriction required by the Order of Conditions had not been finalized or recorded. The Commission voted unanimously to postpone consideration of this request until the deed restriction had been approved by all parties and recorded at the Registry of Deeds.

38 TAYLOR STREET (DEP File # 234-535) – Request for minor modification to prune trees
Property owner Mitch Hallal was present. He stated that his property was regulated under an existing Order of Conditions (for new house construction). There are two trees just beyond the existing limit of work with large branches hanging directly over his house and porch. He is concerned that the branches could break and damage his home and would therefore like to prune them back to the trunk. The limit of work line is located approximately 60 feet from the edge of BVW. **Motion to approve removal of branches overhanging the house and porch as a minor modification to the Order of Conditions for DEP File # 234-535 by Paul Alpert, seconded by Sharon Soltzberg, approved 6-0-0.**

1403 GREAT PLAIN AVENUE (DEP File # 234-442) – Request for Certificate of Compliance
K. Phelps stated that she had not had an opportunity to review the file for compliance with the reference plan and Order of Conditions. The Commission voted unanimously to postpone consideration of this request until their June 25, 2009 meeting.

380 DEDHAM AVENUE (DEP File # 234-522) – Review of proposed pipe replacement plan
The Commission reviewed the proposed pipe replacement plan provided by Gale Associates and the Engineering Division. The Commission agreed that the proposed reinforced concrete pipe met the specifications they required in their last action on this matter. J. Bernardo asked why the first section of HDPE pipe was being left in place. K. Phelps stated that it was the Engineering Division's opinion that removal of this section would damage the manhole. L. Standley noted that the plan shows wetland soil being stockpiled adjacent to the trench. She stated, and the Commission agreed, that the wetland soils within the disturbed area had been sufficiently buried and otherwise altered as to be unacceptable for reuse. Discussion about the elevation above the new pipe followed. The Commission directed K. Phelps to notify

the Engineering Division that the restoration plan is acceptable with the following modifications: (1) the 6” of wetland soil to cover the new pipe must be imported and the specifications of the proposed soil mix shall be submitted to the Commission for review and approval; (2) there shall be no stockpiling of excavated materials within any resource area; and (3) the final grades in the post-remediation condition shall match pre-construction grades (final grading was not clear on plan provided). The Commission voted unanimously to approve the plan with the modifications discussed.

OTHER BUSINESS

PLANNING BOARD COMMENTS – Duncan Drive Major Site Plan

K. Phelps reported that the Planning Board distributed site plan documents for review and comment. The Commission directed K. Phelps to inform the Planning Board that the project was not subject to their jurisdiction.

OPEN SPACE – Discussion

L. Standley reported that a member of the Board of Selectman had approached her about convening a meeting of the Boards who control Ridge Hill, the Nike site, and Town Forest to discuss options for future use of these properties.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 25, 2009 at the Needham Public Library Community Room

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Phelps