

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, August 26, 2010**

LOCATION: Town of Needham Public Services Administration Building, Charles River Room

ATTENDING: Lisa Standley (Chair), Dawn Stolfi Stalenhoeft (Vice Chair), Janet Bernardo, Carl Shapiro, Sharon Soltzberg, Patricia Barry (Agent), Debbie Anderson (Assistant).

GUESTS: Gene Voloshin, Diana Walden, Chip Laffey, Sharon Hesling, Bob Buffone, David Guite, Hal Cohen, J. MacCovney, Eric Carkner, Tony DelGaizo, Carys Lustig, Eric Rothenberg, Sharon Cushing, Marybeth Murphy.

L. Standley opened the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**Motion to approve minutes of March 31, 2010 by S. Soltzberg, seconded by J. Bernardo, approved 4-0-0.**

**Motion to approve minutes of July 8, 2010 by J. Bernardo, seconded by D. Stolfi Stalenhoeft, approved 4-0-0.**

**Motion to approve minutes of July 22, 2010 by D. Stolfi Stalenhoeft, seconded by J. Bernardo, approved 4-0-0.**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**112 EDGEWATER DRIVE (DEP FILE#234-534) – Continued REQUEST TO AMEND ORDER OF CONDITIONS**

L. Standley opened the continued public hearing at 7:45 p.m. P. Barry stated that George Collins, the applicant's representative, requested in writing that the hearing be continued because he needed additional time to coordinate the restoration plan with the applicant. **Motion to continue the Request to Amend the Order of Conditions for DEP File#234-534, (for submittal of required Restoration Plan) to the September 23, 2010 public hearing at 7:45 p.m. at the Needham Public Library by Janet Bernardo, seconded by Dawn Stolfi Stalenhoeft, approved 4-0-0.**

**LOT 1 CAROL ROAD (DEP FILE#234-551) AND LOT 2 BREWSTER DRIVE (DEP File #234-550) – Continued REQUEST TO AMEND ORDERS OF CONDITIONS**

L. Standley opened the continued public hearing at 8:00 p.m. Marybeth Murphy of BSC Group represented the Town of Needham and presented to the Commission the required changes to the restoration and invasive species control plans for the Carol Brewster Property formerly known as Lot 1 Carol Road and Lot 2 Brewster Drive. M. Murphy reviewed the proposed invasive species control measures for approval by the Commission that included the excavation and disposal of two well-established Japanese Knotweed (*Polygonum cupidatum*) stands, the cutting of woody invasive species like Oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), and herbicide spot treatment and hand-pulling of garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*). M. Murphy further explained that the cut stump injection system would be used to treat the knotweed and bittersweet and that the herbicide to be used would have the brand name "Rodeo". The invasive species control plan originally showed no work beyond the 25-foot no disturb buffer zone, however at the Commission's request the plan now included individual knotweed plants that would be treated within the 25-foot buffer zone to prevent future spread of the plant. Additionally, she

stated that the restoration plans were revised to eliminate the non-native plantings of white spruce (*Picea glauca*) and apple (*Malus* spp.) be removed from the planting plan. The monitoring schedule of the restoration area was discussed along with the required annual reports documenting the condition of the restoration area that would be required for two years for the plantings and five years for the invasive species. L. Standley opened the hearing to public comment, with no comments received. **Motion to close the public hearing for DEP File #'s 234-551 & 234-550 by D. Stolfi Stalenhoef, seconded by Janet Bernardo, approved 4-0-0.**

#### **19 JENNIFER CIRCLE (DEP FILE#234-595) – Continued NOTICE OF INTENT**

L. Standley opened the continued public hearing at 8:15 p.m. The Notice of Intent had been continued for revisions to the Plan and to give the Commission a chance to schedule a site visit. L. Standley stated that after the site visit it was determined by the Commission that the fenced in area proposed for tree clearing at the 19 Jennifer Circle property was not a natural vegetated forest. The property owner, Eric Rothenberg, presented the revised plan to the Commission that including the identification of the 25-foot and 50-foot buffer zones on the proposed plan and the removal of twenty seven (27) trees throughout the fenced area that is located within the 100-foot buffer zone to a bordering vegetated wetland. L. Standley requested that 3 specific trees be saved from removal within the 25-foot and 50-foot buffer zones, specifically a 36-inch dbh triple red maple (*Acer rubrum*) abutting the fence at the southwesterly portion of the site, a 4-inch Eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) and a 20-inch Northern red oak (*Quercus rubra*). The Commission noted that the 20-inch red oak was misidentified as a red maple on the plans. All of the proposed work would be within existing lawn or previously degraded area. L. Standley opened the hearing to public comment, with no comments received. **Motion to close the public hearing for DEP File # 234-595 by C. Shapiro, seconded by D. Stolfi Stalenhoef, approved 5-0-0.** The Commission reviewed the Order of Conditions and added a condition requiring a Planting Plan for the trees and shrubs to be planted. The Commission determined that the Applicant shall plant twenty (20) trees and shrubs within a 500 square foot area between the 25-foot no disturb buffer zone and the existing fence on the northeast portion of the back yard. Native species to be planted may be selected from the following list: high bush blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*), high bush cranberry (*Viburnum trilobum*), winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*), gray dogwood (*Cornus racemosa*), red-stem dog wood (*Cornus stolonifera*), bush cinquefoil (*Potentilla fruticosa*), witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), arrowwood (*Viburnum dentatum*), chokeberry (*Aronia arbutifolia*), rhododendron (*Rhododendron maximum*), sweet pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*), witch alder (*Fothergilla gardenia*). **Motion to issue the Order of Conditions for DEP File #234-595 by J. Bernardo, seconded by C. Shapiro. approved 5-0-0.**

#### **470 & 484 DEDHAM AVENUE (DEP FILE#234-596) – NOTICE OF INTENT**

D. Stolfi Stalenhoef opened the public hearing at 8:35 p.m. L. Standley recused herself from the public hearing due to a conflict of interest. Sharon Cushing, from NSTAR Natural Gas and Electric presented to the Commission the proposed project to install a natural gas pipeline to provide a cleaner, more efficient energy source to the existing Town of Needham Department of Public Works Buildings located at 470 and 484 Dedham Avenue. A portion of the proposed pipeline project would take place within the 200-foot Riverfront Areas associated with Alder Brook and the Charles River, and within the 100-foot buffer zone of bordering vegetated wetlands and inland bank. S. Cushing explained that all the work would occur within paved areas, and while the project is located within the vicinity of mapped endangered species habitat, no work would be performed in areas of actual endangered species habitat as all the work would be within paved areas. Work would be located within the FEMA 500-year Flood Zone, but not Bordering Land Subject to Flooding. There would be no stockpiling of soils overnight, as only enough work is planned that can be completed each day. S. Cushing discussed two proposed Alder Brook stream crossing alternatives: (1) open cut gas trench with free standing stream crossing, and (2) horizontal directional drilling (HDD). The method preferred by NSTAR was the HDD alternative. Dave Guite of

NSTAR addressed the Commission regarding specifics of the HDD method and that there were no other alternative routes to bring the gas supply that would not require at least one stream crossing. C. Shapiro questioned whether there were any potential issues when conducting the HDD. D. Guite explained that the only possible problem would be if the drill hit rock and NSTAR could not drill around it, then they would try different attachments, and if after three attempts they could not get through, they would re-evaluate and conduct the gas trench with free standing stream crossing. Erosion controls were discussed and would be implemented along the driveway and the stream bank. Any disturbed grass areas would be restored and any necessary de-watering necessary would be in accordance with the dewatering plan presented within the Notice of Intent application. **Motion to close the Public Hearing for DEP File #234-596 by J. Bernardo, seconded by D. Stolfi Stalenhoof, approved 4-0-0.** The public hearing was closed at 9:15 p.m. The Commission reviewed the draft Order of Conditions. **Motion to issue the Order of Conditions for DEP File #234-596 by J. Bernardo, seconded by S. Soltzberg, approved 4-0-0.**

### **COMMISSION ACTIONS**

#### **61 WAYNE ROAD (DEP FILE #234-572) – CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE REQUEST**

P. Barry stated that she had conducted a site visit at 61 Wayne Road. She noted the following minor differences between the approved plan and as-built plan: (1) installed irrigation system was not shown on the as-built plan or the proposed plan, (2) the underground drainage system was located closer to the single family dwelling, and (3) fifteen shrubs were planted instead of the required sixteen. She also observed orange rods installed as the required permanent markers. **Motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance for DEP File # 234-572 by D. Stolfi Stalenhoef, seconded by J. Bernardo, approved 4-0-0.**

#### **80 PILGRIM ROAD (DEP FILE #234-593) – ISSUE ORDER OF CONDITIONS**

The Commission reviewed the draft Order of Conditions. **Motion to issue the Order of Conditions for DEP File #234-593 by J. Bernardo, seconded by S. Soltzberg, approved 4-0-0.**

**Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.**

### **NEXT PUBLIC HEARING**

*September 23, 2010 at 7:30pm in the Needham Public Library – Community Room*