

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, December 22, 2011**

LOCATION: Public Services Administration Building, Charles River Room

ATTENDING: L. Standley (Chair), Marsha Salett, Sharon Soltzberg, Dawn Stolfi Stalenhoef, Debbie Anderson (Agent), Elisa Litchman (Assistant).

GUESTS: Franz Burke, Steve Horsfall, Vincent Roy, Thomas Ryder, Diane Simonelli.

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

**MINUTES**

Minutes for the December 8, 2011 meeting were postponed till the next meeting on January 12, 2012.

**ENFORCEMENTS**

**328 CEDAR STREET**

D. Anderson stated that Dave Tobin, Town Counsel had suggested composing a letter to the remaining entities on the Enforcement Order, the tower company (owner's of 350 Cedar Street), and Petrucci (the Contractor) asking for their compliance with the Enforcement Order.

**PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE**

D. Anderson reported to the Commission that there has been no response from the owner to the letter sent requesting the owner's attendance at one of the December meetings. The Commission requested that the letter be re-sent by certified mail, stating that if the owner does not respond and attend the January 12th meeting, the Commission will issue fines.

**HEARINGS**

**84 GLENDALE ROAD (DEP FILE #234-620) – CONTINUED REQUEST TO AMEND ORDER OF CONDITIONS**

L. Standley opened the public hearing at 8:00 pm. D. Simonelli explained that the builder now would like to retain two trees and construct the driveway narrower to accommodate them. The pitch of the driveway runs towards the street, not the wetlands, so no gravel trench is proposed. D. Simonelli stated that because of the high groundwater the house has been raised by 2.5 feet, increasing the amount of grading necessary in the 25-foot buffer area. L. Standley stated that according to the Regulations, the \$1000.00 Waiver Fee does not apply to work performed in existing lawn. The Commission stated that their preference is to present the least disturbance to the 25 foot buffer zone. The Commission also stated that the waiver request is inadequate because it does not address why it is not practicable to reduce the size of the house, explain practicable alternatives, or present a compensatory mitigation plan. **Motion to continue the hearing to January 12 at 8:15pm by S. Soltzberg, seconded by M. Salett, approved 4-0-0.**

**1362 GREAT PLAIN AVENUE (DEP FILE #234-6XX) – CONTINUED NOTICE OF INTENT**

L. Standley opened the public hearing at 8:19 pm. The hearing had been continued due to the lack of a DEP File number at the last meeting. No file number had been issued as of December 22, 2011. **Motion to continue the hearing to January 12th at 7:40 pm by M. Salett, seconded by D. Stolfi Stalenhoeft, approved 4-0-0.**

**DPW BROOK MAINTENANCE GENERAL PERMIT (DEP FILE #234-631) – CONTINUED NOTICE OF INTENT**

L. Standley opened the public hearing at 8:30 pm. The DPW department has requested the hearing be continued. **Motion to continue the hearing to January 12th at 8:30pm by S. Soltzberg, seconded by D. Stolfi Stalenhoeft, approved 4-0-0.**

**WALKER GORDON ATHLETIC FIELD IMPROVEMENTS (DEP FILE #234-631) - CONTINUED NOTICE OF INTENT**

L. Standley opened the public hearing at 8:45 pm. Michael Hornig from Beta Group, Inc. submitted updated plans with the Riverfront Area identified as requested. Tom Ryder explained that the proposed stone infiltration trench would be maintained as grass and would not require an Operation and Maintenance Plan. L. Standley questioned portions of the wetland delineation, specifically the river bank wetland flags located in the pond. L. Standley stated that she would perform a site visit to resolve the location of bank. The Commission also requested that the applicant submit a performance standards analysis focused on how the project complies with the riverfront regulations. **Motion to continue the hearing to January 12th at 8:45pm by M. Salett, seconded by D. Stolfi Stalenhoeft, approved 4-0-0.**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**85 RIVERBEND LANE (DEP FILE #234-528) – CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE REQUEST**

Steve Horsfall from Kelly Engineering presented the request for Certificate of Compliance for Lot 4A. He explained to the Commission that according to the Building Department Regulations, the pool equipment must be located 10 feet from the cabana, so in accordance the pool equipment was moved. The erosion control plan had been modified to accommodate this change. The Commission made it clear to S. Horsfall that these changes, which are within the Conservation Commission's jurisdiction require approval in advance by the Commission. D. Anderson had conducted a site visit and stated that the area is seeded and in stable condition. **Motion to issue the Certificate of Compliance by D. Stolfi Stalenhoeft, seconded by S. Soltzberg, approved 4-0-0.**

**18 BORDER ROAD (DEP FILE #234-612) – CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE REQUEST**

The Certificate of Compliance request was not accompanied by a letter; however D. Anderson stated that the deviations from the approved plan had been noted on the as-built plans. The Commission stated that there were no problems with the minor changes. **Motion to issue a Partial Certificate of Compliance by M. Salett, seconded by S. Soltzberg, approved 4-0-0.**

**720 SOUTH STREET – CULVERT REPAIR (DEP FILE #234 -356) – DPW GENERAL MAINTENANCE ACTIVITY NOTIFICATION**

Vinny Roy, Superintendent of Water & Sewer presented the project to the Commission. The DPW needs to reconstruct the drainage at this location to prevent road flooding. The culvert was damaged when a new sewer pipe was installed. The plan includes dropping the water main 2 ½ feet below its current location and retaining the two catch basins. Erosion controls of hay bales and silt fence are proposed as well as sand bagging upstream. Water will be pumped across South Street during construction. The discharge pipe will have a fabric sock and pump the stream into the brook. L. Standley noted that the plans show replacing the upstream inlet pipe with a larger pipe, which has the potential to drain the wetland. V. Roy agreed to retain the existing pipe, and requested permission to install a grate or trash rack to prevent

clogging. **Motion to allow the maintenance activity but not the larger upstream pipe replacement for 720 South Street by S. Soltzberg, seconded by M. Salett, approved 4-0-0.**

#### **112 EDGEWATER DRIVE (DEP FILE #234-534) – PLANTING PLAN DISCUSSION**

D. Anderson explained that she had been contacted by the contractor who requested that she meet on site to go over the mitigation plantings, as the recent request for Certificate of Compliance had been denied because the actual plantings differed from the approved planting plans. The Commission determined that (1) the restoration area required by the Amended Order be restored as shown on the plan, and (2) the restoration required by the original Order, in two areas which appear to be inundated, should be accomplished by re-planting in adjacent buffer zones. The Commission recommended that the Applicant retain a botanist to propose alternate locations for the restoration.

#### **TRAIL STEWARD PROGRAM & KIOSK UPDATE**

L. Standley told the Commission that the Trails Committee has decided on a logo and can now produce trail signs. A manual for the Trail Steward Program has been created and Karen Peirce from Park and Recreation will be getting the steward program up and running. She has also offered to take over the kiosk program.

#### **RIDGE HILL RESERVATION**

L. Standley asked for comments on the Ridge Hill Ecological Management Plan by Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>. She also noted that the RFP for the Swamp Trail Bridge reconstruction had been re-issued.

**Meeting to adjourn by M. Salett, seconded by S. Soltzberg, approved 4-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.**

#### **NEXT PUBLIC HEARING**

*January 12, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. in the Public Services Administration Building, Charles River Room*