

# TOWN OF WESTWOOD

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

John Rogers, Chairman  
Diane Hayes, Vice  
Chair  
Brian Gorman  
R.J. Sheer  
Charles Pare  
Todd Sullivan  
Todd Weston



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## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

**Minutes: Conservation Commission Meeting Date: February 8, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Location: Champaign Meeting Room, 50 Carby Street, Westwood, MA**

### 7:00 p.m.

The Conservation Commission meeting of February 8, 2017 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Champagne Meeting Room, 50 Carby Street with the following members present: John Rogers, R. J. Sheer, Brian Gorman and Charles Pare. Also present is Karon Skinner Catrone, Conservation Agent.

### Approval of minutes – tabled until the next meeting

#### Discussion Items:

1. 63 Dover Road – Mark Mercer – Mr. Mercer, owner of 63 Dover Road has requested to remove a tree in his back yard. The tree is very close to the house.  
Ms. Catrone states she did a site visit and found the tree to be unhealthy. She shows the Commission pictures of the tree.  
**Motion made by Mr. Pare, seconded by Mr. Rogers to allow the tree to be removed with the condition that all of the debris from the removal is disposed of off-site. Unanimous.**
2. Open Space and Recreation Plan – Mr. Rogers states the current Open Space and Recreation Plan was generated 15 years ago by Nora Loughnane. The Commission should discuss what we want to see in the Plan and hire a consultant to do a study. Ms. Loughnane has volunteered Ms. Catrone to do this work. He states residents use the land and don't pick up their trash. Ponds are being taken over by invasive plants. With a significant, well thought out plan we could make a difference. A plan from a consultant could give us some idea of what the cost would be and what we could do.  
Mr. Rogers asks that Ms. Catrone resend his email regarding the Open Space and Recreation Plan to the Commission. We need to ask how the town can do this and then make a vote that we need the help of a consultant.
3. Thompson Avenue - Present is David Flynn of Westview Homes. He states we have reflagged the wetland as requested.  
Mr. Rogers states he is concerned with the area along wetland.  
Mr. Flynn state Mr. Previtera (the former chairman) allowed him to go into the wetlands to clean it up. The site was a mess. We have not completed cleaning this area. He states he ran a new compost sock and orange construction fence from house #99 to the end of the street. We lost a lot of soil during one bad storm.

Mr. Rogers states the lawns at the first houses looks good. He will go out to check compost sock.

Mr. Sheer asks what was dumped.

Mr. Pare states the owner let people dump there.

Mr. Rogers states if you are changing the retaining wall at #119 Thompson Ave., you need to come back to the Commission with a request for a minor modification. At that time, please add the latest revision date to the plan. Mr. Rogers states he would prefer a rock wall rather than block wall.

#### Action Items

1.

#### Hearings

**RDA – 1412 High Street – Gearnon – After-the-fact RDA for tree cutting in the buffer zone – Ms.**

Ms. Catrone states this was an after-the-fact filing. The work has been completed. She states she has been out to the site several times. The debris has been removed.

**Motion made by Mr. Sheer, seconded by Mr. Pare to issue after-the-fact RDA. Unanimous.**

#### **Notice of Intent –DEP #338-0632B – 290 Burgess Ave. – Morrell (Bylaw Filing Only)**

Present are Susan McAurthur, Wetland Delineator, and Rick Morrell, owner/contractor.

Ms. McAurthur states we made the required changes, as requested, which include staggering proposed trees, adding a Cultex system, showing a detail for compost sock and orange construction fence, showing the existing impervious (5656 sq. ft) and proposed impervious (5204sq. ft.).

Ms. McAurthur states she went out to the site with Ms. Catrone to look at the low area in the rear of the existing house. The day before their visit there was a snow melt. We had a very difficult time getting to the soil due to concrete or rocks that may have been dumped in the area of the depression. She states she did Data Forms to show her findings. The soils were 10yr 5/4 and there were no wetland plants.

She requests to remove the depression area from the plan. Mr. Rogers prefers it remain on the plan with a note that on 2/8/17 this area was determined to be non-wetland. In the Order of Conditions we will state that this area was not determined to be a wetland. We will call it a wet depression

Ms. Catrone states there is a large amount of Bittersweet in the area of the depression. It is killing the trees. Ms. Catrone suggests that the Commission require the Bittersweet be removed and allow Mr. Morrell to remove the unhealthy trees.

Mr. Pare would like the applicant to add specs to plan for four (4) SC740 cultex units and require that Ms. Catrone be notified prior to backfill.

**Motion made by Mr. Pare, seconded by Mr. Sheer to issue an Order of Conditions under the bylaw only with the conditions 4 cultex units are proposed and the plan states the depression is not a wetland. Unanimous.**

**Motion made by Mr. Pare, seconded by Mr. Sheer to adjourn the hearing. Unanimous.**