

Town of Westwood
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

John Rogers, Chairman
Stephen David
Helen Gordon
Vesna Maneva
R.J. Sheer
Todd Sullivan
Todd Weston



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CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes: Conservation Commission Meeting Date: October 28, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Remote Meeting

7:00 p.m. – Call to Order

Ms. Gordon states the Westwood Conservation Commission meeting of **Wednesday October 28, 2020 at 7:00 PM.** is being held through Zoom due to the COVID-19 state of emergency and in compliance with the Governor's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law MGL C. 30A, §18 and the Governor's March 23 Emergency Order imposing limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place. To Join Zoom Webinar by Computer please click the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81806521731?pwd=Vky3SVZxdWpyd0VBTU01bnlNNDk3UT09>

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The following members are present: Helen Gordon (acting chairperson), John Rogers, Stephen David and Todd Sullivan. Members Vesna Maneva, Todd Weston and R. J. Sheer were absent. Conservation Agent, Karon Skinner Catrone was present.

Ms. Gordon announces this meeting is being recorded and the applicant for 357 Fox Hill Street has requested a continuance to the November 18, 2020 meeting. **Motion made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Rogers to continue the hearing for 357 Fox Hill Street to the November 18, 2020 meeting. Unanimous.**

Approval of Minutes:

Consideration of minutes for meeting of March 25, 2020, April 8, 2020, April 22, 2020, May 27, 2020, June 10, 2020, June 24, 2020 and July 8, 2020, July 22, 2020, September 9, 2020, September 23, 2020 and October 14, 2020.

Motion made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Ms. Gordon to table the minutes to the meeting of November 18, 2020. Unanimous.

Action Items:

1. Comprehensive plan's open space and recreation section and request for letter of support – Present is Abigail McCabe with an overview of the Comprehensive Plan. She states the 16 member Comprehensive Plan steering committee has been working to update this plan for over two years. I believe Ms. Catrone has emailed you the summarized version of the comprehensive plan. The planning board would like a letter of support from the Commission.

Ms. Gordon states the commission will most certainly support this effort. We would like to work on maintaining our open space areas and this will help us to obtain grants for this work.

Mr. David states he would like to recognized Mr. Rogers' tireless commitment to this volunteer group.

Motion made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. David, to have Ms. Catrone write a letter of support, addressed to the Planning Board, for the Comprehensive Plan. Unanimous.

2. Minor Modification – 101 Willard Circle – DEP #338-0681 – Burke – The Commission opened the public hearing and reviewed copies of the request for a minor modification for DEP #338-0681, including the following:

1. Letter requesting a minor modification for an addition to their home, dated 6/03/2020, from Michael and Sonja Burke of 101 Willard Circle, Westwood, MA 02090 including one (1) page;
2. Plan titled “Burke residence 101 Willard Circle, Westwood, Massachusetts” dated May 19, 2020, drawn by David Sharff, Architect, PC., of 16 Pond Street, Medfield, MA 02052, including one (1) page;

Present is David Flynn, contractor, and Sonja Burke, homeowner, requesting a minor modification to the approved Conservation Commission plan.

Mr. Flynn states the plan was approved by the Commission 1/29/19. After the issuance of the Order of Conditions they found it necessary to relocate the addition to the other side of the house. This change was the result of issues pertaining to construction and structural limitations. The owners were granted a variance and a special permit by the Zoning Board for the new location. Due to this change in location they were required to return to the Commission to address this modification.

Mr. Flynn states we are cantilevering the rear of the house to stay out of the flood plain. Erosion control has been installed. Footings for the deck will be within the flood plain.

Ms. Catrone states erosion control and infiltration are not shown on the revised plan.

Mr. Rogers states this is much more than a modification. This is more of an amendment which would require notification to the abutters.

Mr. David states he is very sensitive to the owners having to do this for an elderly parent. He suggests the applicant continue to the next meeting and notify the abutter’s prior to the meeting. This notification should include the new plan.

Paul Kelley of 107 Willard Circle states he supports this project.

Joseph Previterra asks Ms. Catrone if she is satisfied with this work in the riverfront area.

Ms. Catrone states this work is not closer than the approved work.

Motion made by Mr. David, seconded by Mr. Sullivan to continue the hearing to November 18, 2020 to allow the owner to notify the neighbors of the change and the new plan should be included in the notification. Unanimous.

Public Hearings:

73 Dover Road – RDA – Centola - The Commission opened the public hearing and reviewed copies of the Request for Determination of Applicability for 73 Dover Road, including the following:

1. Request for Determination, DEP form 1 and associated documents, dated 10/15/2020, from Joseph Centola Of 113 Winter Street, Hopkinton, MA 01748 including eleven (11) pages;
2. Sketch Plan, including one (1) page;

Present is Joseph Centola, owner of 73 Dover Road. Mr. Centola states he is updating this house for his daughter and son in law. It has been badly neglected. He would like to remove some trees, relocate the patio, replace the bulkhead and re-landscape the property. He states the patio will be moved farther away from the riverfront area than the existing patio is and most of the trees proposed to be removed are unhealthy or dead. One tree has fallen down and is leaning against the house.

Mr. Rogers asks if the patio will be installed with a subgrade.

Mr. Centola explains it will be.

Mr. Sullivan states this is a very wooded area. He does not think new trees are necessary.

Ms. Catrone states Dover Road is a scenic roadway. A request has to be made to the planning board to remove trees in the right-of-way. She explains Brendan Ryan has looked at the trees and told her the owner would need a survey to show that the trees are out of the right-of-way.

Motion made by Mr. Roger, seconded by Mr. Sullivan to issue a negative determination to allow the work as shown on the sketch plan. Mr. Centola must however meet with the tree warden, Brendan Ryan in the DPW department prior to removing trees within the right-of-way. Unanimous.

42 Mill Street – Notice of Intent - DEP #338-0706 – Vinci – continued from 9/9/2020

The Commission opened the public hearing and reviewed copies of the responses to the peer review comments from Goldman Environmental, including the following:

1. Response to Peer Review Comments from GEC Lot 42 Mill St., Westwood MA (Map 28, Parcel 013) dated October 27, 2020 including three (3) pages;

Ms. Catrone states that she has explained to Mr. McGuire that the responses were received late and the Commission would likely continue this hearing to allow the Commission and the peer review consultant time to review and respond to them.

Present is Tim McGuire of Goddard Consulting of 291 Main Street, Suite 8, Northborough, MA 01532. Mr. McGuire states he understands the material was submitted to the commission last minute. He states the engineer is working on calculations which Goldman Environmental has requested. He states one of Goldman Env. comments pertain to the scale on the plan. We believe that the scale is off due to copying.

Ms. Gordon states the plan should come to us as a pdf.

Ms. Gordon states she would like to do a site walk with the peer review consultant.

Ms. Catrone will set this up.

Joseph Previtera states this is a difficult site. It has been before the Commission several times in the past.

Motion made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to continue this hearing to November 18, 2020 and schedule a site walk with the peer review consultant. Unanimous.

367 Fox Hill Street – Stormwater Notice of Intent - SMP #047 – continued from October 14, 2020

Motion made earlier in the meeting to continue this hearing to November 18, 2020 at the request of the applicant.

Violations: 121 Cedar Lane – Scheduled for the 11/18/2020 meeting

Discussion Items:

1. Commissioners' observations around town and next scheduled site visits
2. Current significant projects
3. Reserved for topics not reasonably anticipated to be discussed
4. Actively make buyers, property owners and realtors aware of WPA, wetland ordinance and stormwater ordinance
5. Brief Select Board on Concom and need for Conservation Land Management Plan
6. Perry Crouse Pond update – Ms. Catrone explains that the suggestion to have a landscaper remove weeds from the pond while it is dry will not work. She states she spoke to a landscaping company and was told it would be impossible to do this without a machine.

Upcoming Meeting: 11/18/2020 REMOTE PARTICIPATION

Note: Agenda items and order subject to change