

Town of Westwood
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Stephen David, Chairman
Todd Sullivan
Vesna Maneva
Debra Odeh
Grace Weller
R. J. Sheer
Elias Fares



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CONSERVATION COMMISSION

**Conservation Commission Meeting Date:
Wednesday, November 9, 2022
Minutes**

7:00 p.m. - Call to Order

The Westwood Conservation Commission meeting of Wednesday November 9, 2022, at 7:00 PM. is being held through Zoom pursuant to Governor Baker's June 16, 2021, Order extending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law MGL C. 30A, §18, and an extension to allow for remote participation until July 15, 2022; the November 9, 2022, [Conservation Commission Meeting](#) will be conducted via remote participation by the Board.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

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Approval of Minutes: Consideration of Minutes for Meetings of March 23, 2022 and September 14, 2022.

Motion made by Ms. Maneva, seconded by Mr. David, to continue the minutes to the December 14, 2022 meeting at 7:00 pm. Unanimous.

The following members are present: Stephen David, Chairman, Debra Odeh, Elias Fares, Vesna Maneva, and Grace Weller. Absent are Todd Sullivan and R.J. Sheer. Conservation Agent, Karon Skinner Catrone is also present. Mr. David announces this meeting is being recorded.

Action Items:

1. Hazard Mitigation Plan - BETA – Presentation – Present are Emily Farmer and Emily Slotnick of BETA. Ms. Farmer explains that DPW, police, youth and family services, Board of Health, Fire, Conservation, Council on Aging, Library Community and Economic Development and GIS were involved with the development of this plan. She states there was a lot of information needed from Ms. Catrone. She states she will be going over the following topics with the Commission this evening: overview and benefits of hazard mitigation planning, mitigation planning process and content, the 2022 mitigation strategy and the adoption process. With this plan the town will be eligible for grants. This will also play a role in climate change. We have work with all of the boards and had a public visioning session last week. The plan was sent to MEMA and FEMA today for their approval. Following the presentation, Mr. David thanks Ms. Farmer and Ms. Slotnick for their presentation tonight.

Public Hearings:

510 Far Reach – Stormwater Land Disturbance – Gandhi

The Commission opened the public hearing and reviewed copies of the Land Disturbance Permit for 510 Far Reach Road for disturbance of over ½ acre of land, including the following:

1. Land Disturbance Application submitted on September 30, 2022 by Christopher Cabral of Crossman Engineering, 103 Commonwealth Avenue, North Attleboro, MA 02763, including one (1) page;
2. Plan – PROPOSED SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE PLAT MAP 2, LOT 45 ZONING DISTRICT SRC 510 FAR REACH ROAD WESTWOOD, MASSACHUSETTS, dated April 2018, last revised 7/26/22, submitted by Crossman Engineering, including one (1) page;

Present is Christopher Cabral of Crossman Engineering requesting a Land Disturbance Permit for the construction of a new single family home and grading.

Ms. Catrone explains that this project was initially filed for as an Administrative Land Disturbance Permit and was issued for disturbance of under ½ acre of land. In late summer she visited the site with Mike Perkins of the building department and found additional disturbance on the site. At that time, it was discovered that the owner was doing additional work on the site which brought the land disturbance to over ½ acre of work. A cease and desist was issued by the building department. She states the project is currently being reviewed by BETA. The review is not complete.

Ms. Odeh states she lives in this neighborhood and has watched the work. There has been significant additional disturbance. A lot of trees have been removed and a lot of fill brought in. This project needs to be done right. Vegetation to prevent erosion is necessary. Currently there is soil just dumped on the site. She states she would like to see a detailed planting plan, not just lawn.

The Commission agrees they cannot approve the project without the completed peer review.

Motion made by Mr. David, seconded by Ms. Odeh to continue this hearing to December 14, 2022 at 7:00 pm to allow BETA to complete the peer review. Unanimous.

490 Gay Street – ANRAD –DEP #338-0? – Petrozzi

Wetland boundary confirmation

Ms. Catrone states the owner has requested a continuance to December 14, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

Motion made by Mr. David, seconded by Ms. Odeh to continue December 14, 2022 at 7:00 pm at the request of the applicant. Unanimous.

110 Arcadia Road – Request for Determination – Musto – Continued to 12/14/22

Clearing of trees and brush.

Ms. Catrone states the applicant did not properly notify the abutters.

Motion made by Mr. David, seconded by Ms. Odeh to continue December 14, 2022 at 7:00 pm to allow the applicant to notify abutters. Unanimous.

7 Little Boot Lane – Notice of Intent –DEP #338-0? – Champion – Continued to 12/14/22

Three (3) Additions (continued from 10/26/2022)

Ms. Catrone states the applicant needs to go before the zoning board.

Motion made by Mr. David, seconded by Ms. Odeh to continue December 14, 2022 at 7:00 pm to allow the applicant to go through the zoning process. Unanimous.

Discussion Items:

1. Potential Tree policy/ordinance/bylaw
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/tree-by-law-and-ordinance-guide/download>
2. Assure Select Board's awareness of above items, clarify oversight of the Town's existing conservation lands and
discuss potential Conservation Land Management Plan
<https://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/home/showpublisheddocument/7288/637012120637130000>
3. Commissioners' observations around town and next scheduled site visits
4. Update on significant projects and other topics not reasonably anticipated

5. Actively make buyers, property owners and realtors aware of WPA, wetland ordinance and stormwater ordinance

Motion made by Ms. Weller, seconded by Mr. Elias to the adjourn meeting. Unanimous.

Discussion Items:

Upcoming Meeting: 12/14/22

Note: Agenda items and order subject to change