

Town of Westwood
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

John Rogers, Chairman
Stephen David
Helen Gordon
Vesna Maneva
Todd Sullivan
Todd Weston



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CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes: Conservation Commission Meeting Date: February 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Location: Remote Meeting

7:00 p.m. – Call to Order

Stephen David, acting chair for this meeting, states the Westwood Conservation Commission meeting of **Wednesday February 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.** 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.

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The following members are present: Stephen David (acting chairperson), John Rogers, Helen Gordon, Todd Sullivan and Vesna Maneva. Member Todd Weston is absent. Conservation Agent, Karon Skinner Catrone was also present.

Mr. David announces this meeting is being recorded.

Approval of Minutes:

Consideration of minutes for meeting of May 13, 2020, June 10, 2020, June 24, 2020 and July 8, 2020, July 22, 2020, December 9, 2020, January 13, 2021 and January 27, 2021.

Action Items:

1. 148 Sunrise Road – Request for Certificate of Compliance – DEP #338-0690 – Ms. Catrone states the gutters have not been tied into the infiltration system.
Motion made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Ms. Gordon, to continue this discussion to February 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Unanimous.
5. 92 Birchtree Drive – Request for Certificate of Compliance – DEP #338-0553 – Ms. Catrone states she did a site inspection but was unable to see if the area was stabilized due to the snow. The infiltration system and gutters were inspected prior to backfill.
Motion made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Ms. Gordon, to continue to March 10, 2021 so the area can be re-inspected for stabilization. Unanimous.

Public Hearings:

20-22 Southwest Park – Request for Determination of Applicability – Encounter Church

The Commission opened the public hearing and reviewed copies of the Request for Determination of Applicability for 20-22 Southwest Park, including the following:

1. WPA Form 1, submitted by Jason Hodges of Encounter Church, 18 Southwest Park, Westwood, MA 02090, including ten (10) pages;
2. Plans titled “Alta/ACSM LAND TITLE SURVEY SOUTHWEST PARK WESTWOOD, MASS.” (the date is not readable), and “DAYCAREENCOUNTER CHURCH 20 SW PARK, WESTWOOD, MA dated 12/16/20 submitted by Haynes Group of 385 West Street, Bridgewater, MA, including two (2) pages;

The applicant, Jason Hodges is present and states the church has been at this site since 2017. The inside and outside of the building has been renovated. We are planning to add a preschool and outside play area to the building. The preschool will not change the footprint. The play area will be located outside on the rear right side of the building, within the 100 foot buffer. The surfacing of the play area will be rubber. The asphalt will not be removed. Chain link fence and bollards will be installed. The rubber surface will be poured in place and allowed to dry.

Ms. Maneva states this area will no longer need to be salted.

Mr. David asks why this is being done under an RDA.

Ms. Catrone states because there will be no new impervious area created.

Ms. Maneva asks where this will drain.

Mr. Hodges states this area drains to a catch basin in the center of the parking lot.

Motion made by Mr. Rogers to issue a Negative Determination #3 with the condition a letter is received from the owner stating he is aware of this project and approves of it. Unanimous.

Ms. Gordon recuses herself from the next hearing.

50 Brookfield Road – Request of Determination of Applicability –

The Commission opened the public hearing and reviewed copies of the Request for Determination of Applicability for 50 Brookfield Road, including the following:

1. WPA Form 1, submitted by Nathan Lamont, 50 Brookfield Road, Westwood, MA 02090, including five (5) pages;
2. Sketch Plan titled “SHED PLAN”, dated 12/18/2020, including one (1) page;

The applicant, Nathan Lamont is present and states he would like to place a 160 sq. ft. shed in his rear yard and add 2’ stones along the stream side. This area was cleared by the previous own for a garden. He would like to put it in this area because this area is closed off from the abutter with a fence. The shed will be eleven (11) feet from the stream.

Ms. Maneva asks if there will need to be excavation.

Mr. Lamont states he will only be leveling the area and adding crushed stone.

Ms. Maneva states erosion control should be required.

Motion made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Sullivan to issue a Negative Determination #3 with the condition erosion control be installed and inspected prior to start of work. Motion passes, 5 in favor.

Ms. Gordon returns to the meeting.

590 Dover Road – Request for Determination of Applicability - LaCroix

The Commission opened the public hearing and reviewed copies of the Request for Determination of Applicability for 590 Dover Road, including the following:

1. WPA Form 1, submitted by William and Kate LaCroix of 590 Dover Road, Westwood, MA. 02090, including four (4) pages;
2. Plans titled “FINAL AS-BUILT PLAN OF LAND IN WESTWOOD, MA”, dated Dec. 4, 2020, drawn by Colonial Engineering, Inc., 11 Awl Street, Medway, MA, including one (1) page;

The applicant, Alex LaCroix is present and states he would like to remove five trees from his side yard. The removal of these trees would increase the efficiency of the roof top solar panels he is planning to install. He states he will plan five lower growing trees in their place.

Mr. Rogers asks how big is the area of removal.

Mr. LaCroix states it is approximately 10’ x 20’.

Mr. Rogers states the Commission would prefer that the trees be cut close to the ground rather than be grinded.

Motion made by Mr. David, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, with the condition the trees be cut close to the ground and not grinded and that Ms. Catrone inspect the site to see if erosion control is necessary. Unanimous.

36 Woodridge Road – Notice of Intent - DEP #338-0 – Ifrah

Ms. Catrone states the Commission requested changes to the plan. The changes have not been completed.

Motion made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to continue this hearing to February 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Unanimous.

7 Longmeadow Drive – Notice of Intent - DEP #338-0714 – Barbieri – Continued from 1/27/21

The Commission opened the public hearing and reviewed copies of a revised plans, including the following:

1. Plans titled “THE BARBIERI RESIDENCE 7 LONGMEADOW DRIVE WESTWOOD, MASSACHUSETTS”, SHEET L1, Dated 1/6/21 and “THE BARBIERI RESIDENCE 7 LONGMEADOW DRIVE WESTWOOD, MASSACHUSETTS”, SHEET L2, stamped by Hawk Design, Inc., of Sagamore, MA, including three (3) sheets;

Present is Richard Kirby of LEC Environmental Consultants, Inc. of 380 Lowell Street, Suite 101, Wakefield, MA 01880. Mr. Kirby states this hearing was continued from 1/27/21 to respond to the request to add more diversity to the planting plan and add scuppers to the patio. Four (4) scuppers have been added to the patio design and Tupelo, Shag bark hichory, and American beech trees have been added to the plan.

Motion made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Ms. Gordon, to issue a standard Order of Conditions for 7 Longmeadow Drive, DEP #338-0714. Unanimous.

42 Mill Street – Notice of Intent - DEP #338-0706 – Vinci – Continued from 12/9/2020

Ms. Catrone states the applicant has requested a continuance to the February 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. to complete responses to the peer review consultant’s comments.

Motion made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to continue this hearing to February 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Unanimous.

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

Upcoming Meeting: 2/24/2021 REMOTE PARTICIPATION

Motion made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous.