

Town of Westwood
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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



Karon Skinner Catrone, Conservation Agent
kcatrone@townhall.westwood.ma.us
(781) 251-2580

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes: Conservation Commission Meeting Date: April 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Remote Meeting

7:00 p.m. – Call to Order

Helen Gordon, acting chair for this meeting, states the Westwood Conservation Commission meeting of **Wednesday April 14, 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, 2020 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/89301306621?pwd=R0l2Z212a3h6WnZwaHFTRlQxaXdIdz09>

Passcode: 053591

Or Telephone:

888 475 4499 (Toll Free) or 877 853 5257 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 893 0130 6621

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

Ms. Gordon announces this meeting is being recorded.

Approval of Minutes:

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

Motion made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to table the minutes to the 5/5/21 meeting at 7:00 pm. Unanimous.

Action Items:

1. 34 Woodland Road – DEP #338- 0683 - Request for Minor Modification – Ms. Catrone states the applicants, Erin and Christopher Crea are requesting a minor modification to regrade their front yard so it is less pitched toward the house. The Commission reviews the sketch plan titled “34 Woodland Road Plan of Land in Westwood, MA” dated April 3, 2021. The applicant has sketched the area of regrading on the plan.

Ms. Maneva states it appears that two trees will have to be removed. The trees appear to be privately owned trees.

Mr. Sullivan states this outcropping should have been removed when the house was constructed.

Motion made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to approve the minor modification with the condition a compost sock be placed on the right side of the driveway. Unanimous.

2. 148 Sunrise Road – DEP #338-0690 – Request for Certificate of Compliance – Mr. Glossa of Glossa Engineering is present and states he believes the downspouts are directed to the infiltration system. Mr. Sullivan states the lines are not shown on the plan. Mr. Glossa states he will go to the site and verify the downspouts are tied into the infiltration system. Mr. Rogers states he would like Mr. Glossa to add the lines to the plan.

Motion made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to continue the action item for 148 Sunrise Road to the 5/5/21 meeting at 7:00 pm. to allow Mr. Glossa to add the lines to the plan. Unanimous.

3. 11 Willett Pond Drive – DEP #338-0704 – Request for Minor Modification – Present is Mr. Glossa of Glossa Engineering, representing Jay Guidone, owner of 11 Willett Pond Drive.
Mr. Glossa explains the owner is proposing the following changes to the approved plan: removal of the double retaining wall, add single retaining wall and regrade to the limit of work (this area will be seeded with grass), reduce size of pool house to a 12' x 20' structure, add a pergola instead of a 2nd pool house, relocation of hot tub to the west side of the patio, relocation of stairs to the west side of the patio, a pool equipment building has been added, a propane tank has been added, old boat house foundation will be removed, additional underground utilities (sewer, water, gas and electric) were not shown on the approved plan and have been added to this plan, an outdoor shower has been added, and the planting plan has been revised.
Mr. Glossa states there are a lot of changes but these changes create less impact to the pond. He states the compost sock will be extended around the boat house foundation.
Ms. Maneva states it would be helpful to see existing and proposed plantings on the plan.
Mr. Rogers states he would like to see the outside shower connected to the sewer pipe.
The Commission agrees these changes reduce the excavation and disturbance between the pool and the pond.
Motion made by Mr. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to approve the request for minor modification for 11 Willett Pond, DEP #338-0704, with the condition a revised plan be received showing the outside shower tied into the sewer pipe. Unanimous.
4. 288 Summer Street – DEP #338-0633 – Request for Certificate of Compliance – Ms. Catrone states she has done several inspected throughout the construction process. The infiltration system was inspected prior to backfill, all down spouts are tied into the infiltration system, trees have been planted in the rear yard and the yard is stabilized. A picture of the rear yard is shared.
Ms. Maneva asks what area was disturbed.
Ms. Gordon states this was new construction.
Ms. Catrone states she has received a letter of significant compliance from the engineer.
Motion made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to issue a Certificate of Compliance for 288 Summer Street, DEP #338-0633. Unanimous.

Public Hearings:

48 High Rock Street – Notice of Intent – DEP #338-0545 – Castro

The Commission opened the public hearing and reviewed copies of the Notice of Intent for 48 High Rock Street, including the following:

1. WPA Form 3, submitted by Fernando Castro, owner of 48 High Rock Street, Westwood MA 02090, including twelve (12) pages;
2. Plans titled “48 HIGH ROCK STREET GARAGE FOUNDATION AS-BUILT PLAN IN WESTWOOD, MA” dated 10 July 2013, including one (1) page;

The applicant, Fernando Castro is present and states he is requesting an Order of Conditions to demo the existing deck and rebuild a sunroom in the same location and extending it a maximum of 4 feet into the lawn. He states he requested 5 feet in case the work slightly extends over 4 feet.

Mr. Castro shares his screen to display a 3D picture of the project and explains the details of the project.

Ms. Maneva asks what resource area is involved.

Mr. Castro states we are within the 200 foot Riverfront Area to Rock Meadow Brook.

Mr. Castro states he may add 3 new footings under the middle of the structure. He is discussing this with the engineer.

Mr. Sullivan states you should do something to keep water away from the footings. The water can rot the footings. He suggests dispersing the water over the lawn using a spreader.

The Commission agrees the water can run over the lawn.

Motion made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Rogers, to issue an Order of Conditions for 48 High Rock Street, DEP #338-0545, with the condition the water be dispersed away from footings. Unanimous.

36 Woodridge Road – Notice of Intent - DEP #338-0731 – Ifrah – This hearing was continued from 2/24/21 to allow the applicant to make requested changes to the plan. The engineer has not completed the changes and the applicant has requested a continuance to 5/5/21 at 7:00 pm.

Motion made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Ms. Maneva, to continue the hearing to 5/5/21 at 7:00 pm. Unanimous.

Vegetation removal at the Cemetery

Ms. Catrone explains that the DPW has requested to remove some buckthorn from around the pond at the cemetery. Ms. Maneva asks that Ms. Catrone speak to the DPW and find out how the buckthorn would be removed and what they would be replacing it with. She suggests that the Town work on a town wide maintenance plan.

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