

Weston Conservation Commission (WCC) - Public Meeting Minutes
February 2, 2021
Approved: February 23, 2021

Members Participating Joseph Berman (Chair), Alison Barlow, Cynthia Chapra, Ellen Freeman Roth, Rebecca Loveys, Rees Tulloss

Members Absent: Josh Feinblum; Cynthia Chapra left meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Conservation Staff: Michele Grzenda

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order concerning imposition on strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this Conservation Commission meeting was conducted via remote participation using Zoom.com. The Town provided access to such meeting via a link to call in. No in-person attendance of members of the public was permitted, but every effort was made to ensure that the public could adequately access the proceedings.

7:30 p.m. Admin. Matters (these matters may happen any time during the evening)

1. Opportunity for Public Comment - none

7:30 p.m. Notice of Intent; 29 Deer Path Lane (DEP # 337-1401); Ajay Anand

The Applicant filed this Notice of Intent for the construction of an addition to a single-family house at 29 Deer Path Lane. A portion of the work lies within Wetland Buffer Zones. The proposed project consists of the construction of an addition to the existing garage, totaling 510 SF. The existing driveway will be connected to the new addition, adding an additional 80 SF of impervious area, for a total of 590 SF of impervious surface. The addition will replace a landscape bed and lawn. The wetland resource area was delineated by Goddard Consulting, LLC on October 8, 2020. The work will be located within the buffer zone of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland and no work is proposed within the 25' No Disturb Zone. The work is located at least 39.7 feet from the resource area. The applicant proposes the use of 12" straw wattle and silt fence as sedimentation and erosion control. Approximately 160 linear feet of straw wattle will be located along the edge of the existing driveway. Motion by Cynthia Chapra to close the hearing and issue an order of conditions approving the project; seconded by Rees Tulloss; roll call vote: each member responded Aye.

7:45 p.m. Cont. Notice of Intent; 14 Byron Road (DEP # 337-1400); Ha and Everett Orbon

(owners); Mark Beaudry, DJ Noise, landscape Architect, Rich Kirby, LEC Environmental Consultants
The Applicant filed this Notice of Intent for the construction of additional parking, patio areas, squash court building, and landscaping improvements at 14 Byron Road. A portion of the work lies within Wetland Buffer Zones. Mr. Beaudry updated the commission on the stormwater improvements made as a result of concerns raised by abutters and their engineer. As a result, the stormwater design has been modified as shown on a revised plan submitted. In addition, Rich Kirby from LEC discussed the proposed invasive species management plan. Specifically, Mr. Kirby proposes to remove the invasive plants and vines; as well as remove four dead ash trees. In the NDZ, the intension will be to restore the area with a mix of pollinator native plants, native shrubs, and 8 native trees; ECB installed along wetland edge; remove as much invasive plant roots and stems as possible; areas of steep slopes will be protected with an erosion control blanket. Installation will be overseen by LEC or Water Street Landscape design. A light mulch of straw will be applied until the seed germinates. The area beyond the NDZ will be mowed once a year in the fall. The restoration was described in the Planting Plan Operation and Maintenance Plan. Inspections are proposed for the first 6 months. The Agent requested the following items be included in the O&M Planting plan: (1) a NDZ waiver shall be filed; (2) wildlife features shall be shown and installed

in the NDZ area (i.e. downed woody debris and boulders); (3) the report shall include language indicating the restored area will be monitored for 3 years; (4) the word “constructed wetland buffer” will be changed to “restored buffer”, and (5) the Commission requires a wetland scientist shall be present for any restoration work occurring in the NDZ.

George Hailer, attorney for the abutters, appreciates the work that the Applicant has requested a continuance to allow time for the abutter’s engineer review of the stormwater design. Motion by Rees Tulloss to continue the hearing to 8:15 p.m. on 2/23/21; seconded by Ellen Freeman Roth; roll call vote: each member responded Aye.

8:15 p.m. Cont. NOI: 518 South Ave; Hanover Weston (DEP File# 337-1983)

The applicant of Hanover Weston has requested a continuance to allow time for additional test pit work and addressing the Commission’s consultant’s review letter. As such, the hearing originally scheduled for 8pm on 2/2/21 will be continued to 8:30 pm on 2/23/21. Motion by Rees Tulloss to continue the hearing to 8:30 p.m. on 2/23/21; seconded by Cynthia Chapra; roll call vote: Each member responded Aye.

8:25 p.m. Request for Minor Plan Change – 7 French Road; E. Gaw

The owner proposes to replace the existing dilapidated wooden bridge over the intermittent stream 4 feet wide by 19 feet long and it will be built by hand. In addition, Mr. Gaw wishes to relocate the foot bridge to an area where the stream is narrow. The bridge will be installed by placing concrete blocks (6”x8”x18”) as footings for the bridge; Motion by Rees Tulloss to approve as a minor plan change; seconded by Cynthia Chapra; roll call vote: Each member responded Aye.

8:32 p.m. Discussion – Proposal to construct new parking areas - on the AstraZeneca campus at 35 Gatehouse Drive, Waltham; Paul Joyce, Astra Zeneca.

Chris Wagner, VHB presented on behalf of AstraZeneca at 35 Gatehouse Drive in Waltham. Astra Zeneca proposes to construct a new parking lot, a portion of which will be in Weston. Mr. Wagner reviewed a plan which shows that there are two isolated wetlands in Weston. However, isolated wetlands do not have a buffer zone under the Wetlands Protection Act. Mr. Wagner believes the work is not in jurisdictional areas since isolated wetlands do not have a regulated buffer zone. The Commission would like VHB to file an RDA for formal review; VHB will report back to Weston Conservation Department on their next process by next week.

Cynthia Chapra left meeting at 8:45 p.m.

9:00 p.m. Admin matters

1. Request for Certificate of Compliance – 482 Glen Road (337-1069A) – motion by Rees Tulloss to issue Certificate of Compliance; seconded by Ellen Freeman Roth; roll call vote: each remaining member responded Aye.
2. Re-sign Certificate of Compliance – 482 Glen Road (337-1137) – Motion by Ellen Freeman Roth to re-sign Certificate of Compliance; seconded by Rees Tulloss; roll call vote: each remaining member responded Aye.
3. Request for Cert. of Compliance – Southside Drainage Project Phase I: motion to issue Certificate of Compliance by Ellen Freeman Roth; seconded by Rees Tulloss; roll call vote: each remaining member responded Aye.
4. Land Management Updates
 - o Request from Bernie Scozzafava (259 Glen Road) to conduct work on Burt Field conservation land. Mr. Scozzafava, a WFTA Trustee, generously volunteered to do some site work for the Conservation Commission. The specific tasks are as (1) Field Edge cleanup of fallen tree limbs and invasive plants. Mr. Scozzafava has already been doing

a lot of this; (2) Gravel placement in a wet area (in uplands) where Mr. Scozzafava previously put wood chips; and (3) Bridge repair/replacement of a deteriorating plank bridge that Mr. Scozzafava had previously installed. The bridge is in a wetland but its replacement is covered under a blanket Order of Conditions issued to the Weston Forest and Trails Association for trail maintenance. The Commission was supportive of Mr. Scozzafava's volunteer efforts.

- Thoughts about grazing on conservation land – Commission generally supportive of the concept. A permit would likely be required.
5. WCC annual report- Motion by Ellen Freeman Roth to endorse the annual report; seconded by Rees Tulloss; vote 5:0:0.
 6. Possible Eagle Scout Project - Joe Berman will suggest Eagle Scout candidate Tim Gavin to touch base with Debbie Howell.
 7. 9:30 pm Approval 1/19/21 Con Com minutes – motion by Rees Tulloss to approve minutes; seconded by Ellen Freeman Roth; roll call vote: each remaining member responded Aye.
 8. Conservation reviewed the Department's work flow, priority and project list review.
 9. Next Conservation Commission Meeting: February 23, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35pm