

Weston Conservation Commission - Public Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2019
Approved: September 3, 2019

Members Present: Joseph Berman (Chair), Josh Feinblum, Cynthia Chapra, and Ellen Freeman Roth
Members Absent: Rees Tulloss, Alison Barlow, and Rebecca Loveys
Conservation Staff: Michele Grzenda
Others Present: See Sign-in Sheet

7:30 p.m. Admin. Matters

Discussion and vote on new Con Com representative to the Community Preservation Committee- This was tabled until the September 3rd meeting.

7:33 p.m. Req. for Cert. of Compliance – 12 Autumn Road (337-1308); A. Amiri

The Applicant has requested a Certificate of Compliance as Mr. Amiri is selling the property. The Project involved the construction of a single family house and landscaping; a portion of which occurred in the Riverfront Area. The Conservation Office is awaiting a letter from a professional engineer certifying compliance of the property and a final complete as-built that shows all required items on one plan (vs. the two plans which were submitted). In addition, Mr. Amiri has requested that the Commission waive the requirement that the native plants survive two growing seasons as they were only planted last winter. The Agent was ok with that request. Motion by Joseph Berman to issue a Certificate of Compliance contingent upon the items listed above being submitted and the Agent conducting a site visit to ensure all erosion controls have been removed. The motion was seconded by Ellen Freeman Roth; vote 4:0:0.

7:40 p.m. Cont. Notice of Intent: 416 Conant Road; J. Shotwell

The Applicant has requested a continuance. Motion by Josh Feinblum to continue the hearing until September 3, 2019 at 7:40 p.m.; seconded by Ellen Freeman Roth; vote 4:0:0.

7:42 p.m. Req. for Cert. of Compliance – 500 Wellesley Street (337-1336): N. Danforth

Josh Feinblum disclosed that he is an abutter to the project but can act objectively in this matter. Mr. Danforth has requested a Certificate of Compliance. The Project involved the remediation of lead impacted soil from a portion of the property; a portion of the work occurred in the 100-foot buffer zone. The Agent conducted a site visit and confirmed that the project has been completed satisfactorily with the exception of some flagging tape and stakes that need to be removed from the remediation area. Motion by Cynthia Chapra to issue a Cert. of Compliance contingent upon the flagging tape and stakes being removed from the trees in the remediation area; seconded by Ellen Freeman Roth; vote 4:0:0. Next, the Agent updated the WCC on the status of the Purchase and Sale Agreement for the property. The owner has 4 more items remaining on the punch list of things to do and then his attorney will notify the town in order to schedule a closing on the property. The Agent anticipates the closing occurring this fall.

8:00 p.m. Notice of Intent: 20 Beaver Road; KVC Builders, LLC

The Applicant has withdrawn this application. No action was taken

8:02 p.m. Admin. Matters

1. Approval of 7/23/19 Con Com minutes; motion by Josh Feinblum to approve; seconded by Cynthia Chapra; vote 4:0:0
2. Signing of bills
3. Request for Cert. of Compliance – 7 Ware Street (337-1185): The applicant is selling his home and has requested a Full Certificate of Compliance. The Commission issued a Partial Cert. of Compliance on 1/30/19 citing the following items which had not been completed were: (1) Per Condition #46: After the completion of the 2019 growing season, the Applicant shall submit to

the Conservation Commission, a letter from a Landscape Architect confirming that over 75% of the surface area of the Restoration Areas have been restored with native vegetation and (2) Confirmation that the three areas observed unstable in January 2019 have been stabilized: an area down-gradient of recharge basin #2 where a contractor had to re-install the Stormwater outfall, the area downgradient of the generators, and a small area near the driveway. The Applicant has filed a letter from a Landscape Architect confirming that over 75% of the surface area of the Restoration Areas have been restored with native vegetation and also confirming that the areas observed unstable in January 2019 are stabilize. The Agent will conduct a site visit. Motion by Josh Feinblum to issue a Certificate of compliance contingent upon: (1) the Agent conducting a site visit to ensure Items 1 and 2 have been completed and (2) the Agent confirming that if the dog fence approved in a Determination of Applicability issued earlier this year was installed in the correct location. The motion was seconded by Ellen Freeman Roth; vote 4:0:0.

8:15 p.m. Activity in/near Wetlands – 43 Warren Ave. and 3 Warren Lane; Joe, John, Mae, and Katie Lingley

On July 23, 2019, the agent observed that work had been conducted in and near the wetland and stream at 43 Warren Ave and 3 Warren Lane. Specifically, at 43 Warren Ave.: a swath of land adjacent to Cherry Brook was recently mulched. Cut stems of shrubs were observed. You indicated that a large willow branch had fallen and impacted this area. During the cleanup, the damaged shrubs were cut and chipped. You stated that your intention is to allow the mulched area to re-grow. At 3 Warren Lane, an approximate 2,000 s.f. area appeared to be recently cleared. The Agent believed that mulch was recently spread along the ground; a large pile of lawn clippings was observed. The area is within the 100-year flood zone, and within the Inner Riparian Zone of the Riverfront Area to Cherry Brook. You indicated that you had been removing historically dumped material and now are trying to suppress the knotweed by placing mulch and lawn clippings over the ground. Although the WCC is supportive of invasive species removal, placing mulch and lawn clipping over the area is not an appropriate mechanism to manage invasive species and is considered filling in the flood zone. Mr. Lingley indicated that only a small portion of the area has wood chips; that most of the area is not maintained and nothing grows in the area. The Agent questioned this since bare ground becomes quickly vegetated during the summer months in Massachusetts. The commission requested that the area be left as is and be allowed to grow in a natural state. The Lingley agreed to that will not place woodchips and lawn clippings in the flood zone behind 3 Warren Lane. The Commission reminded the owners that should they wish to remove any trees or native shrubs from the Riverfront Area in the future, that the Conservation Office shall be contact.

8:45 p.m. Admin. Matters, Cont.

1. Permitting question – 681 Boston Post Road – the owner wishes to replace an existing retaining wall in the side/backyard in the same location. The existing retaining wall was damaged when a tree fell. The work would entail removing the existing wall, creating a more stable base, and re-constructing the wall. The work area would be limited to within 3-feet from the base of the existing wall. A bordering vegetated wetland and intermittent stream exists behind the wall, however, no work would occur within the 25-foot No Disturb Zone (NDZ). The landowner is requesting that she be allowed to use an older plot plan and sketch the location of the wall for permitting purposes. It was the Commission's opinion that the Applicant can use an old plot plan with the existing wall sketched on it for the purpose of filing a new NOI. The Agent will assist the landowner with the filing.
2. Next Con Com Meeting will be Sept. 3, 2019

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.