

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

STEPHEN WASHBURN, CHAIRMAN  
KRISTEN CAPEZIO, VICE CHAIR  
PETER BAMBER, TREASURER  
JOHN GEAR  
HEATHER MILLER  
CARLY ROCKLEN  
CATHERINE WALSH



**ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER/  
CONSERVATION AGENT**

HOLLY JONES, MSCI

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

LORI MCLELLAN

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**Conservation Commission Meeting  
March 17, 2021  
7:30 P.M.**

**Present:**

**Stephen Washburn, Chairman  
Kristen Capezio, Vice Chair  
Peter Bamber, Treasurer  
John Gear  
Heather Miller  
Carly Rocklen  
Catherine Walsh**

**Also Present: Holly Jones, Environmental Planner/Conservation Agent.**

Please note the March 17, 2021 meeting was held remotely using GoToMeeting software 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<sup>th</sup> Executive Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place. Although no in-person attendance of members of the public occurred, the town of Norwood made every effort to ensure the public can access the proceedings in real-time via technological means.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Stephen Washburn at 7:30 p.m. followed by a roll call.

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**Public Hearings:**

**64 Puritan Place: Notice of Intent. DEP File No. 251-0520, N2020-11 Assessor's Map 16, block 1, Parcel 71**

Ms. Jones requested that we move on to the second public hearing while we wait for Mr. Glossa.

**732-750 Everett Street: Request for Determination of Applicability, N2020-12**

Ms. Catrone reported to the Commission that she is joined by Ms. Loughnane and Mr. Ahearn and they are here requesting a negative determination to plant a mix of native trees in the rear of 732-750 Everett Street. They are proposing a mix of fifteen 10-12 inch Balsmic Fir, Red Spruce, Atlantic White Cedar and American Holly. The trees will be planted by hand and the area of the

proposed planting is manicured flat grassed area. She reported that the purpose of this filing is to create screening of the neighbors and owners on Strasser Avenue in Westwood. They have submitted a plan to show the Commission.

Ms. Jones informed the Commission that this is Request for Determination of Applicability and the wetlands Protection Act does allow for this type of planting as what is considered a minor activity, but the bylaw doesn't have a minor activity exemption. She noted that the activity was an ecological benefit and would not impact wetlands. Ms. Jones advised a negative determination through the Bylaw.

There were no comments from the Commission or the public.

Motion: Ms. Walsh made a motion to issue a negative determination of applicability. Ms. Capezio seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0-0.

**64 Puritan Place: Notice of Intent. DEP File No. 251-0520, N2020-11 Assessor's Map 16, block 1, Parcel 71.**

Mr. Glossa presented to the Commission a proposed project of construction of a single family home with associated driveway, utilities, and grading in the buffer zone of a bordering vegetated wetland and the riverfront area of an intermittent stream. Mr. Glossa showed some potential alternative house locations and discussed how they would change the layout on the lot.

The Commission was concerned that the application was missing drainage calculations and Mr. Glossa noted that they had been done when the subdivision was built. There was discussion of how the stormwater standards have changed since the 1990s when the subdivision was built. Ms. Jones informed the Commission that she spoke with Mark Ryan to ask his thoughts about drainage and he informed her that he was comfortable with it. She also received from the neighbors requesting that a special condition be included in the order of conditions regarding the proposed arborvitae they requested a condition for perpetuity to keep the arborvitae. She believes a number of years might be more appropriate than perpetuity.

Mr. Glossa informed the Commission that he had a conversation with the neighbors about a hedge and what he envisions is that it should be an ongoing condition. Ms. Jones responded that is a reasonable way to write it as an ongoing condition and that it would have to come back before the Commission for it to be removed.

The Commission and applicant discussed further the drainage, infiltration capacity of the soil, and protecting the buffer zones on the lot.

Ms. Miller had a questions regarding moving the house closer to the lot lines to reduce the environmental impacts, and requested a more thorough alternatives analysis. She also inquired if the size of the house has been reconfigured to move it out of the buffer zone as part of the alternative analysis.

Mr. Washburn opened the floor to the members of the community for questions or comments.

**Mr. and Mrs. McCarthy, 58 Puritan Place:**

Mrs. McCarthy noted support for the arborvitae between her residence and the proposed project.

Mr. Washburn informed the Commission that there were no more comments from the public and asked Ms. Jones for next steps.

Ms. Jones suggested continuing to request a more thorough alternatives analysis and stormwater information.

**Motion:**

Mr. Bamber moved for a motion to continue the hearing until April 7, 2021 at 7:30. Ms. Walsh seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0-0.

**Conservation Commission Business:**

Endean Orchard Food Forest was continued to the next meeting.

**Motion:**

Mr. Bamber moved to continue the discussion to the next meeting. Ms. Walsh seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0-0.

**Wetlands Updates and Issues:**

**Extension Request for DEP File No. 251-0492, Willet Pond**

Mr. Onorato informed the Commission that he is seeking a three year extension on their order of conditions which was first issued in 2018. Since that time they have been managing invasive water chestnuts, which has predominantly handled by hand pulling and they are going to continue to hand pull water milfoil which has been treated with aquatic herbicide, and bushy pond weed, which is native but tends to take over the shallow cover area and that is also managed by aquatic herbicide. They are looking to continue with the same program and willing to provide the Commission with annual reports. Ms. Jones added that we have a local order which has been expired but is going to be reapplied for. She supports extending the state order. Mr. Bamber responded that anything that they do on Willet Pond benefits the downstream watershed of Ellis and Guild Pond.

**Motion:**

Mr. Bamber made a motion to approve the extension for three years. Mr. Gear seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0-0.

**Conservation Commission Business:**

**Social Media update/discussion:**

Mr. Jones gave an update on the social media policy which has been approved by the Board of Selectmen.

**Trails Committee Meeting:**

Ms. Jones reported that Neponset River Water Association are hosting a trash clean-up day on April 17, 2021 and working with them for evasive removal in mid-May.

**CPC Report:**

Ms. Walsh reported that the minutes were approved on 2-10-21. There are two projects that are not going forward, the Hawes Brook ADA improvement and the landfill observation platform work. They are only going to move forward with the University Ave project and the fire bell removal and storage.

**Conservation Agent's Report:**

Ms. Jones said that the trail update covered her agent report.

**Minutes:**

**Motion:** Mr. Rocklen made a motion to approve the February 3, 2021 minutes. Mr. Bamber seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0-0.

Mr. Bamber made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Walsh seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously, 7-0-0.