

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, March 26, 2009**

LOCATION: Needham Public Library, Community Room

ATTENDING: Carl Shapiro, Marsha Salett, Paul Alpert, Sharon Soltzberg, Kristen Phelps (Agent)

GUESTS: Adele Huemiller, Karen Pierce, Stephen Nadeau

C. Shapiro opened the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

128 ADD-A-LANE (DEP File # 234-553) – NOTICE OF INTENT

C. Shapiro opened the continued public hearing at 8:15 p.m. The applicant requested a continuance until May 28, 2009. **Motion to continue the public hearing for DEP File # 234-553 to 7:45 p.m. on May 28, 2009 by Paul Alpert, seconded by Marsha Salett, approved 4-0-0.**

COMMISSION ACTIONS

DPW GENERIC PERMIT (DEP File # 234-356) – Headwall & Culvert Repair

Stephen Nadeau from the Engineering Division was present to discuss the proposed work at 433 Chestnut Street. He stated that during the inspections being conducted as part of the Chestnut Street Reconstruction project, the Town discovered a collapsed headwall where an intermittent stream runs under the MBTA tracks. The culvert under the tracks is also full of debris. S. Nadeau stated that the general contractor on the Chestnut Street project (Mario Susi and Sons) is in a position to conduct the necessary repair and maintenance work if it is approved under the DPW Generic Order of Conditions. He added that erosion controls will be installed in two separate locations prior to the start of work, and any heavy machinery used to repair the headwall will be operated from the abutting parking lot owned by Hartney Greymont. The culvert will be cleaned with a Vactor machine and any debris or sediment in the channel will be removed by hand. S. Nadeau stated that they would like to commence work on March 31st and confirmed that a member of the Engineering Department would be on site while the work was occurring. **Motion to approve the proposed work under DEP File # 234-356 by Marsha Salett, seconded by Paul Alpert, approved 4-0-0.**

GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD PROJECT AT CAMP MALCOLM – Trails Maintenance Request

Girl Scout Gold Award candidate Adele Huemiller was present. She described her proposed project which involves removing invasive species – primarily buckthorn and winged euonymus – from the field at the McCracken Camp property (aka Camp Malcolm) and trimming the vegetation on the trails in this area. The project is expected to take two days, and Ms. Huemiller has enlisted the help of both the Scouts and her church. **Motion to approve the proposed project under the Generic Trails Determination of Applicability by Sharon Soltzberg, seconded by Marsha Salett, approved 4-0-0.**

OTHER BUSINESS

500 DEDHAM AVENUE – Review of proposed change to water quality inlet

The contractor for the PSAB project submitted a request to substitute a Hydroworks stormwater quality unit for the proposed Stormceptor. J. Bernardo reviewed the specifications for the Hydroworks unit. In the absence of further information, she was not comfortable with the proposed substitution. K. Phelps

will direct the project proponents to either provide additional information on the product for review or to use one of the water quality inlet products that the Commission has approved in the past.

MACC ANNUAL MEETING – Discussion

S. Soltzberg gave a brief overview of the green design workshops she attended at the MACC Environmental Conference, noting that the importance of groundwater recharge and infiltration were consistently emphasized by the speakers. She asked what was being done at the Town level to promote infiltration (noting what is being done in Newton) and suggested that the Commission look into promoting the adoption of a Stormwater and Erosion Control Bylaw. K. Phelps will schedule for discussion on an upcoming agenda.

LAND MANAGEMENT – Discussion

At the February 12, 2009 meeting, the Commission discussed the need to start thinking about the “replacement” land required by the Commonwealth to compensate for the transfer of 3.02 acres at Ridge Hill that was transferred for purposes of constructing a Senior Center. If an appropriate private parcel cannot be obtained by the December, 2010 deadline, the Town may consider transferring municipal land not currently protected under MGL Ch. 40 S. 8C to the control of the Commission. K. Phelps will compile a list of Town-owned properties and will schedule this land management matter (to review the list and discuss private parcels of interest) for the Commission’s next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 16, 2009 at the Broadmeadow Elementary School Media Center

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Phelps