



TOWN OF PALMER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 23rd, 2018 – 7:00 PM

Donald Blais, Chair
David Cotter, Vice Chair
Peter Izyk
Nicholas Zeo
Brenda Cole

Angela Panaccione, Agent

Members Present: Donald Blais, Jr.
David Cotter
Peter Izyk
Nicholas Zeo
Brenda Cole

Members Absent:

Also Present: Zac Farkes, Borrego Solar
Richard Bernard, 1 Aspen Circle
Joe Maiolo, 115 Laurel Road
Jarred Jackson-King, 96 Rondeau Road
Emily Massing, 96 Rondeau Road

1. **Call to Order:** 7:03 PM – Donald Blais, Jr (Chair)

2. **Chair, Member & Committee Reports:**

- a) **Complete Streets Community Forum:** The Agent & Chairman Blais attend the forum. A Complete Street is one that provides safe and accessible options for all travel modes - walking, biking, transit and vehicles – for people of all ages and abilities. The Town currently has 28 proposed projects and the complete report is available on town website. There is also an interactive map online aimed to solicit comments from the public on priority projects. The Agent encouraged Commissioners to look over and provide comment on maps. The MassDOT Complete Streets Funding Program provides technical assistance and construction funding to eligible municipalities. Eligible municipalities must pass a Complete Streets Policy and develop a Prioritization Plan, which the Town has currently done. The next step is to secure funding through the program for priority projects. The Agent did mention the Commissions support on projects that provide trail connectivity and encourage the development of bike lanes and an off road bike path in town.
- b) **Community Development Public Forum:** The Agent & Chairman Blais attend the forum. They expressed the desire to improve river access and focus on Three Rivers. The commissions Recreational Trails Grant for First Street was included as part of 5 year Community Development plan, with expanded river access and establishing a canoe/kayak take out in Three Rivers. Donald Blais discussed the Three Rivers Bridge and how it should be a higher priority. Town Manager Charles Blanchard said the bridge project has been changed to just rehabilitate, not full reconstruction of the bridge. This may take away from some of the aspects of the Three Rivers Revitalization Plan, which included bump outs on the bridge deck for viewing the river. Below is a list of goals (in no particular order) that was developed and reviewed during the forum:
- revitalization of Main Street, Three Rivers;
 - revitalization of Hryniewicz Park;
 - construction of walking trails;
 - creation of river access;
 - elimination of blighted properties;
 - rehabilitation and reactivation of vacant mill properties;
 - development of a reuse plan for Converse Middle School;
 - improvement of the housing stock;
 - provision of social services to the neediest residents;
 - improvement of athletic fields;
 - rehabilitation of Burleigh Park;

- upgrade sanitary sewer facilities and pump stations;
- upgrade failing infrastructure (sewer mains, storm drains, water mains, streets and sidewalks)
- support new and existing local businesses with loan funds and technical assistance
- rehabilitation/replacement of Main Street bridge, Three Rivers

c) Three Rivers Revitalization Report: The Agent attended the Three Rivers Revitalization meeting last night. The meeting focused on discussing the *Downtown Three Rivers – A Revitalization Strategy Recommendations Report*; prepared by Christine Moynihan, prioritizing options and building partnerships. Of the three sections, partnership with the Conservation Commission are vital to implement the nature section – constructing blue trail, river walk, and a focus on rivers. Seeing as June is rivers month, the Agent recommended having duck race/canoe race, and possibly a Three Rivers festival at Lavoliette Park. She also suggested pursuing a PARC grant for river access behind package store. Overall, the Nature Experience section of the report lists the following six objectives:

1. Interest in the intersection of the three rivers provides an obvious opportunity and C4R's (Chicopee River Watershed Organization) bacteria sampling program is showing some good results. These waterways with the right kind of attention could be increasingly available for recreation and exploring. Form a subcommittee for active engagement with Chicopee River Watershed Organization and as much as possible start using the rivers – lead by example.
2. Working on and promoting a “Blue Trail” (also known as a water trail) which is a river adopted by communities dedicated to improving family friendly recreation such as fishing, boating, hiking, and wildlife watching, and conserving rivers and lands will lead people to downtown Three Rivers. Creating parking areas and transportation for canoeists and kayakers to end their journeys in Three Rivers is an opportunity to extend a day on the river into an evening in the village.
4. Fishing gear and other outdoor sports equipment for sale or rent would be a natural retail shop in the area.
5. A river walk is also being developed which could lead to many opportunities from trail biking to snow-shoeing and cross-country skiing in the winter.
6. Many activities and experiences in Three Rivers – Nature... tie into Three Rivers – Fun as well and can also tie into Three Rivers – Art.

In order to make it happen; the report recommended the following; which the Commission has already actively been doing:

- Identify people with a talent and interest in research, grant writing, outdoor activities, birding, fishing, kayaking.
- Combine efforts with the Chicopee River Watershed Council to learn about and promote the Three Rivers Blue Trail
- Identify and seek funding to keep the rivers clean and the riverbanks clear.
- Host volunteer days to clean the riverbanks, remove invasive growth.
- Mark the trail.
- Engage naturalists from local colleges to share the history of the rivers, the fishing weirs, etc. Announce and bring programs to local high schools and organizations.
- Create events around the intersection of the rivers where visitors can gather to watch or participate including traditional events like holiday “tree lightings”, fall bonfires, float parades. Build decks, platforms, pergolas for “watching” the rivers.
- Work on needs for proposed River Walk. Combine efforts with Fitness and Well-being for cross-country ski trail, etc.
- Celebrate the rivers by creating events and festivals around it with sculpture competitions along the trail (Nashua), rubber duck races, anything that floats race / design contest (Pittsburgh), Waterfire

(Providence), fishing derbies. All of these can also be fund raisers that will help support development of the Blue Trail, Riverwalk, dock access, etc.

The Agent will email the final report to the Commissioners.

- d) Nick Zeo – Journal Article 1/18/18: Nick Zeo submit an article to Commission from last week’s Palmer Journal. The Article was about the consistent flooding on Park Street and how it seems to have gotten worse over the past year or so.

3. **Review Mail/Phone Messages:**

- a) Town Manager’s Records Request: The Town Manager Charlie Blanchard previously request of the Commission all correspondences regarding Boston Road and Peterson Road Solar Projects and 1 Aspen Circle. Now he is requesting we provide the same information for Palmer Motor Sports, Sherwood Lumber, the Mass Pike Toll Booth Replacement and the Seasonal Cottages at Forest Lake – although this time the information only going back from the present to July 1, 2016 (FY17 and YTD FY18) will be sufficient. He would also like all the communications sent and received on the following Septic System Review work:

- 95 Rondeau Street
- 19 West Ware Road
- 115 Laurel Road
- 676 Old Warren Road

The Commission discussed the request. Chairman Blais will meet with Charlie about this and inquire about nature of request and the priority of it. Peter Izyk stated will all the work the Agent already has, this is a time consuming request. He also inquired if the Agent would even be paid for the hours required to complete it. The Agent stated the last request took about 4-5 hours to put together and it was only on three projects. She also only sent Charlie the email correspondences from the files, not any of the site plans or meeting minutes or other documents the files may contain (site inspection reports, photos, violation logs, restoration reports, etc.). The Commission was curious about why he is asking for these now, and feels it may have to do with the budget. The Agent expressed her concerns with sharing the Palmer Motorsports Park file as much of it is confidential and sensitivity to the ongoing enforcement at the site. Peter Izyk also recommends the agent keep a phone log now, of who she talks with and for how long.

4. **Public Inquiries:** None

5. **Approval of Minutes: January 17th, 2018**

Motion made by Brenda Cole to approve the minutes from January 17th, 2018 as amended

Motion seconded by Nicholas Zeo

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

6. **Approval of Payables:**

- a) MACC Conference

Motion made by Peter Izyk to approve payable to MACC in the amount not to exceed \$500 (pending scholarship awards to Nick & Brenda)

Motion seconded by David Cotter

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

7. **Signing of Documents (DOA, OOC, COC, Ext, Etc.)**

- a) Collect Conflict of Interest Acknowledgement of Receipt & Certificates of Completion: The Agent collected the certificates of completion and the acknowledgement of receipts from Commissioners.

Donald Blais & Dave Cotter still need to submit theirs. Peter Izyk, Nicholas Zeo & Brenda Cole are all set.

- b) Ratify MassDOT Emergency Permit: MA RT-20 (Park Street) Culvert Cleaning Palmer Trailer: Mass DOT requested an Emergency Certification be issued for the work required to abate a flooding & icing emergency on Park Street. As mentioned MassDOT Highway crews performed emergency repairs to abate a flooding and icing condition related to a plugged culvert crossing under Route 20 in the Town of Palmer. The culvert is adjacent to PTS Palmer Trailer facility.

The blocked culvert caused water to flow over Route 20 and due to the extreme cold weather at the time, the situation was more worrisome as the flood water created a dangerous icing situation. In addition to the Route 20 flooding and freezing, the flood waters also had the potential to impact several businesses and properties. Due to the urgency of the matter, MA DOT immediately acted to eliminate the danger to travelling public and any possible impacts to property and livelihoods.

Due the amount of sediment plugging the culvert and covering the inlet and outlets, along with the freezing weather, crews worked Tuesday (January 9, 2018) through Thursday (January 11, 2018) to abate the emergency.

The work performed included excavating and removing sediment from within the pipe and from the pipe inlet and outlet. The outlet was brought to daylight to allow the stream to flow unimpeded and to reduce the chance for the material to settle out, plugging the pipe again.

Robert Natario will attend the 2/6/2018 meeting to discuss this, and other issue with Park Street drainage with the Commission.

Motion made by Nicholas Zeo to ratify Emergency Permit issued to MA DOT on January 9, 2018

Motion seconded by David Cotter

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

8. Schedule of Public Hearings

- a) 7:31PM NOI: 115 Laurel Road (Map 10-23) – Joseph Maiolo: The applicant is requesting a Notice of Intent for the replacement of a failed septic system. The proposed project is entirely within the 100- foot buffer zone to a BVW and will require 525 SF of disturbance within the 100-foot buffer zone. Chairman Blais opened the public hearing. Property owner Joe Maiolo was present, as well as abutter Richard Bernard, of 1 Aspen Circle.

The Agent conducted a site visit with Lori McCool septic designer and reviewed the BVW and stream with her. The location of the work for the SAS replacement is about 70-feet from the edge of the BVW. Given the time of year and steep slopes on site, the Agent required an NOI in order to monitor the construction impacts and to ensure the area is properly revegetated and stabilized come the Spring.

Chairman Blais opened the hearing to public comment. There were none.

Motion made by Nicholas Zeo to close the public hearing for DEP #256-0329 at 7:36pm

Motion seconded by David Cotter

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

Motion made by Brenda Cole to determine the proposed soil absorption system (SAS), fully complies with Wetlands Program Policy 86-1: Presumptions for Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems That Meet Title 5 or More Stringent Local Board of Health Requirements (Mass DEP- Revised March 1, 1995); and thus fully meets the presumption at 310 CMR 10.03(3), for the “discharge from a sewage disposal system”

Motion seconded by Peter Izyk

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

Motion made by Brenda Cole to determine the construction of the proposed soil absorption system (SAS) is located within the Buffer Zone and will not alter adjacent Resource Areas with the use of proper erosion and sedimentation controls

Motion seconded by Peter Izyk

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

Motion made by David Cotter to issue the Orders of Conditions for DEP #256-0329, with attached Special Conditions and Findings of Facts

Motion seconded by Nicholas Zeo

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

- b) 7:41PM RDA: 271 Breckenridge Street (Map 19-60) – Borrego Solar: The applicant has submitted a Request for Determination to confirm the precise boundaries of jurisdictional resource areas delineated at 271 Breckenridge Street and to determine if the work associated with the installation of a 6.4 MW Solar Array is subject to the WPA & PWO. Donald Blais opened the public hearing and Zach Farkes, of Borrego Solar was present. The proposed project is located at 271 Breckenridge.

The property consists of an undeveloped forestland with a residential property. It is located off of Breckenridge Street and is directly adjacent to residential houses and the Massachusetts Turnpike I-90. The parcel to the south consists of forested undeveloped land. The subject site consists of multiple walking trails extending from east to west within a forested upland and wetland community. Except for the four delineated wetland features, the remainder of the survey area consists of an upland forest community on an undulating landscape with several small hills.

The proposed facility consists of two (2) photovoltaic solar arrays installations that will occupy approximately 28.7 acres inside the fence. The solar panels will be installed on a screw post foundation support racking system and the only impervious surfaces to be constructed will be the electrical equipment pads. The project has no stormwater components currently proposed.

The wetlands were delineated in June 26, 2017 & September 27, 2017 by SWCA Environmental Consultants. Jurisdictional resource areas found on site consist of one Bordering Vegetated Wetland (BVW) and three (3) Isolated Vegetated Wetlands (IVW). The FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map for the area indicates there is no 100-year flood zone located on site; therefore, there is no Bordering Land Subject to Flooding within the project site. No large isolated depressions were observed at the site; therefore, there is no Isolated Land Subject to Flooding (ILSF). There are no perennial streams on or within 200-feet of the subject parcel; therefore, there is no Riverfront Area.

Wetland CD (delineated by flag series C-1 to C-63 and D-1 to D-27, is a palustrine, scrub-shrub/forested wetland, and is located within the southwest corner of the survey area, and 100-feet from the solar array area. An intermittent stream flows from north to south, entering the site from through a culvert identified near Massachusetts 1-90. Hydric soils were used to delineate Wetland CD and were classified as depleted below dark surface. Evidence of hydrologic indicators include water stained leaves, standing water, within 6 inches of the surface, moss lined trees, and sparsely vegetated concave surface. Dominant vegetation found within Wetland CD consist of trees and shrubs such as red maple and highbush blueberry. Herbaceous vegetation identified within the wetland includes cinnamon fern and royal fern.

Isolated Vegetated Wetlands were flagged on the site and are below the minimum threshold to be considered as Isolated Land Subject to Flooding (ILSF) under the Wetlands Protection Act. The identified isolated wetlands do not have inlets or outlets.

- Wetland A: An approximately 4,635-square foot isolated, palustrine forested wetland demarcated with flags A-90 to A-105 located just east of the residential area and encompasses some of the adjacent property. This wetland is outside of the array area, but could be potentially crossed for access.

- Wetland B: An approximately 365-square foot isolated, palustrine forested wetland demarcated with flags B-101 to B-109 located within the southeastern corner of the project area. This wetland may have formed in an excavated area.
- Wetland E: An approximately 1,238-square foot isolated, palustrine forested wetland demarcate with flags E-1 to E-6 is located within the southeastern corner of the survey area. This wetland does not have an inlet or outlet and is located outside the proposed solar array area.

These three wetlands are presumed to be federally jurisdictional per the Clean Water Act, unless the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers rules differently. While not specifically regulated as a wetland under the WPA, the 2015 Palmer Wetlands Regulations does take jurisdiction of isolated wetlands and assigns a 100- foot buffer zone to such resources. Of mention, Section C(3) of these regulations stipulates that an isolated wetland under 5,000 is not presumed to be significant to the interests of the Palmer Wetlands Ordinance.

SWCA also delineated a potential vernal pool/isolated wetland approximately 295 feet east of the project area. This area was labeled as VP1 and demarcated with flags labeled 101 to 106. This isolated wetland had approximately 1-1/2 feet of standing water. This area is found within Wetland CD. According to Massachusetts Geographic Information System (MassGIS), the Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program has not identified this feature as a certified or potential vernal pool.

Agent expressed her concerns with the project and initially recommended the Commission continue the hearing until the spring when the BVW, IVW and potential vernal pools could be inspected and verified. She also expressed her concern that the project as currently proposed had no stormwater management components, either during or post construction. Given the steep slopes, proximity to the Palmer Reservoir and the amount of site grading proposed, infiltration basins should be included to prevent erosion & sediment from entering jurisdictional areas.

The Agent also inquired how the project as proposed meets MA DEP's new Solar PV Stormwater policy 17-1. A narrative addressing the policy should be included in the NOI.

The Agent stated how in her initial correspondence with Borrego she recommended the filing of an NOI and Zach Farkes agreed. He stated he would discuss it with Steve Long and withdraw the current RDA, to file an NOI.

Motion made by Brenda Cole to continue the public hearing until 7:00pm on April 3, 2018
Motion seconded by David Cotter
No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

9. Certificates of Compliance (COC)

- a) DEP #256-0269 - Palmer Motorsports Park: Palmer Motorsports Park has requested the Commission take no action on the request for a COC today. Fred Ferguson has retained a new lawyer.
- b) DEP #256-0313 – Palmer Green: The Agent conducted a site visit today which revealed some new issue that will need to be addressed before the COC should be issued. She supplied site photos to the Commission. The main issue is an area of the lawn has washed out, breaching the erosion control lines and transporting sediment into Mt. Dumpling Brook. This will need to be fixed before a COC is issues. Also, the boundaries of the CR will need to be marked on site so it is visible to all resident that the area is protected land and hopefully that will help with residents illegally dumping in the CR area.

10. Project Monitoring

- a) DEP #256-0309: Boston Road Solar: As part of the post-construction monitoring requirement of the Federal MS4 Permit the Agent conducted a routine site inspection at 8 Boston Road on January 16,

2018, under the OOC DEP #256-0309. She supplied her inspection report as well as site photos to the Commission. The Agent cited new violations on site from failure of the applicant/property owner to comply with the Operation & Maintenance plan on file with the Town as well as failure to maintain the detention ponds. There is excess sediment within basin and the corresponding drainage swales that run parallel to the PV array are also filled with sediments. Vegetation still does not appear to be growing on site and it has been well over a year since construction ceased and the PV array was complete. The Agent required the following actions within 14 days: remove excess sedimentation from within the basin. The basin shall be excavated to the original design as drawn on the approved plans. Also have a Professional Engineer (PE) shall verify in writing that the basin is currently functioning or restored in accordance with the original design intent. Additionally, they are required to remove sediment and debris from drainage swales as well.

Motion made by Brenda Cole to send notice of violation, requesting all SWPPP reports to date, and the fixing of site within 14 day or \$300/day fine begins again.

Motion seconded by Nicholas Zeo

No further discussion - 5-0-0 - Motion Carries

- b) DEP #256-0312 - MassDOT Toll Booth Removal: Currently there is no update for MA DOT. There was work occurring on site last week and the Agent will follow up with Robert Natario about it. No work was supposed to occur until a restoration plan was received and approved by the Commission. The Conservation Agent will conduct an inspection of the area the end of this week or next. She will also request an update from Natario for the 2/6/18 meeting.

DEP #256-0327: Sherwood Lumber Replication: The Agent conducted a site inspection on 1/16/2018 & again on 1/23/2018. She noted several severe violations of the replication area and the BVW, which she supplied photos of to the Commission. On January 23, 2018 the Conservation Agent discovered erosion and sediment controls were not being maintained in the area surrounding the wetlands replication. Excessive amounts of sediment have entered both the wetland and the replication area (see photos attached). It does not appear the contractor has been removing sediment deposits as necessary to maintain the filters in working condition. Additionally it does not appear the contractors are maintaining the erosion controls in a functional condition at all times, including inspections after each rainfall and at least daily during prolonged rainfall. As required under the order of Conditions, the contractor must immediately correct all deficiencies including replacing compost filter tubes as needed. Additionally, monthly reports of the replication area are required during the first growing season, and the Commission has not received any yet and the replication was completed in early September 2017. Additionally, the wetlands specialist is supposed to also be reviewing erosion controls (within the replication areas only), and monitor construction impacts to adjacent areas and regulated wetland resources.

Upon discovery of the violation the Agent immediately requested all SWPP reports & replication monitor reports from the Environmental Consultant, of which none have been received yet. She also required the immediate installation of straw bales along the top of the slope by the replication areas, as well as the installation of an erosion control blanket down the slope to the BVW and replication area. She gave the contractors 24 hours to complete the required mitigation measures and will conduct an additional site visit before the next meeting. She will also request the property owner and contractor attend the 2/6/2018 meeting. The Agent will also send out an official Notice of violation, and copy MA DEP as well.

11. Violations & Enforcement

- a) 96 Rondeau Street - SFH addition construction wetlands violation: On November 20, 2017 the Palmer Conservation Commission received a Site Inspection Request for a Building Permit for 96 Rondeau Street, Palmer MA (Map 37-21). The Conservation Agent Angela Panaccione conducted a site inspection on Tuesday November 28, 2017 and observed construction of the shed was already occurring. She also noted clearing and grubbing of the property had occurred without a permit. At that point she sent a cease and desist letter to the

property owners and requested their attendance at tonight's meeting.

An additional site visit was conducted by the Commission on Tuesday December 5, 2017 at 10:00 am. Commissioners Peter Izyk, David Cotter, and Nicholas Zeo, as well as the Conservation Agent Angela Panaccione were present.

Emily Messing & Jared King were present at tonight's hearing to discuss what progress they have made to date. As a requirement of the Enforcement Order, the property must have retained a wetlands specialist to serve as an environmental consultant for this project by tonight meeting. The property owners retained Peter Levesque, of Wetlands Consultants Inc. Levesque will develop an existing conditions plan and a restoration plan for the damaged Bank, BVW and Stream.

Emily Messing required if an NOI for the shed would still be required if the Consultant proved the work for the shed was not in a resource area or its buffer zone. The Commission stated if they agreed to the delineations and the shed was outside of their jurisdiction, not NOI would be needed. The owners would still be required to restore the damaged bank and BVW of the stream, but that would be conducted under the enforcement order and would not need its own NOI.

Motion made by Peter Izyk to accept Pete Leveque of Wetlands Consultants, Inc. as wetlands consultant
Motion seconded by Nicholas Zeo
No further discussion - 5-0-0 - Motion Carries

- b) 1237 Park Street - Stormwater Violation: No update. The Agent will Contact Mr. Shah and request his attendance at the 2/6/18 meeting. She will also inquire about the status of the snout installation.
- c) 17 Hobbs Street (Map 25-10-1 & 25-10-10): On January 16, 2018 DPW and Conservation staff observed excessive amounts of sediment exiting your property and discharging directly to the municipal storm drain system (MS4) which discharges to an outfall on the Ware River. Under the Town of Palmer Code of Ordinances § 146-6 Prohibiting Illicit Discharges no person shall dump, discharge, cause or allow to be discharged any pollutant or non-stormwater discharge into the municipal storm drain system, watercourse, or into the waters of the Commonwealth.

During the latest rain storm, the hillside was observed eroding onto Church Street, causing the roadway to be restricted and causing safety issues for traffic on Church St. The Town of Palmer DPW attempted to remove the material on Church St. but the soil is frozen.

The property owner is required to immediately install proper erosion and sediment controls on your property to prevent the further erosion of the site. Additionally, within 30 days they are required to remove all the sediment that has washed down the hillside, to the edge of Church Street. They were also informed that, should they fail to abate or perform remediation within the specified deadline, the Town may, under § 146-9(2)e undertake such work, and expenses thereof shall be charged to the violator and/or property owner.

DPW will take the lead on this enforcement and the Conservation Agent will assist as needed

12. New/Old Business

- a) Chapter 91 Public Waterways – Open Comment Period Bondsville Dam Repairs: The Agent will send a letter to MA DEP, indicating the Commissions support for the proposed canoe/kayak portage around dam as it meets several of the Community Goals & Objectives of the Town of Palmer 2014 Open Space & Recreation Plan needs

Motion made by Peter Izyk to send public comment letter to MA DEP on the Chapter 91 Waterways Permit
Motion seconded by David Cotter
No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

- b) Forest Lake Seasonal Cottages: At the request of Chairman Blais, Paul McManus of EcoTec will attend the 2/6/18 meeting of the Commission to bring the new members up to speed with regard to site conditions, wetland resources, and overall project that will be proposed and ultimately filed as a NOI. Site plans are currently being developed now, including the proposed layout, stormwater management systems, and utilities.

- c) Administration of 2017 MA Trails Grant: All of the required contract documents have been signed and submitted to DCR, now the Commission is just waiting for the official letter from DCR stating we may begin the work. One the final signed contract is executed the Commission will have two (2) years from date signed to complete the First Street Trail Project.
- d) 604(b) Grant Application - Lake Thompson: The grant has been officially announced and the Agent will attend the grant workshop on Wednesday January 24, 2017 in Worcester. The project will provide recommendations for reducing pollutant runoff into Lake Thompson based on a detailed analysis of land cover in watershed. Baseline water quality information, data gaps, and nonpoint source pollution issues will be identified in the Lake Thompson watershed. Dry and wet weather water quality sampling will be conducted in Lake Thompson watershed. A detailed assessment of the drainage area that contributes runoff for the one large storm water outfall in Lake Thompson will be conducted. Recommendations will be provided to improve stormwater management in the Lake Thompson watershed including opportunities for stormwater remediation and future grant funding.
- e) 2018 Trail Grant & Land Grant for Acquisition of Turnpike Parcel – Authorize appraisals: The Agent is applying for recreational trails grant again this year, to purchase the MA Turnpike parcel (Map 15-14). The 92 acre parcel has been targeted for acquisition by the Commission since 1980. When joined with the land already controlled by the PCC a large parcel over two- mile long from north to south, and approximately a half-mile wide along most of this length will be created. Additionally it would open up and develop approximately 5 additional miles of trails and provide full day hikes and many good views of the surrounding landscape, particularly towards the southeast from the high point of the Turnpike property. The King’s Brook, which runs along the west side of this parcel, contains Native Brook Trout and has been identified as a potential aquifer. In addition to human use, this area is home to a variety of wildlife, including hawks, beaver, moose and black bear.

13. Upcoming Events, Conferences & Trainings

- a) MACC Annual Conference Saturday 3/3/2018 at Holy Cross in Worcester
- b) MLTC Annual Conference Saturday 3/24/2018 at Worcester Technical High School

14. **Office Closed**: January 24, 2018 for 604(b) grant Workshop & January 31, 2018 for Stream Stats Workshop

15. **Set Next Meeting Date**: Tuesday February 6, 2018 @ 6:30pm

16. **Meeting adjourned**: 9:30 PM

Motion made by Brenda Cole to adjourn at 9:30 PM
Motion was seconded by Nicholas Zeo
No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

Sincerely Submitted,

Angela Panaccione
Palmer Conservation Commission Agent



TOWN OF PALMER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Donald Blais, Chair
David Cotter, Vice Chair
Peter Izyk
Nicholas Zeo
Brenda Cole

LOCATION: Town Administrative Building Meeting Room
4417 Main Street, Palmer MA 01069

Angela Panaccione, Agent

Meeting Documents

Tuesday, January 23rd 2018 – 7:00 PM

The following is a list of documents used at the above meeting, in addition to those included in the agenda packet which is part of the official record of the meeting:

#	Description	Agenda Item	Retained
2(a)	Town of Palmer Complete Streets Power Point Presentation; prepared by BSC Group; dated January 2018	Chair, Member & Committee Reports	Complete Streets File Folder
2(b)	Community Development Public Forum Agenda	Chair, Member & Committee Reports	Community Development File Folder
2(b)	Community Development Strategy and Priority List 2018-2022	Chair, Member & Committee Reports	Community Development File Folder
2(c)	Downtown Three Rivers – A Revitalization Strategy Recommendations Report; prepared by Christine Moynihan, Principal Retail Visioning; dated October 30, 2017	Chair, Member & Committee Reports	Three Rivers Revitalization Folder
2(d)	1/18/2018 Palmer Journal Article: Water, ice flood over Route 20; By Douglas Farmer	Chair, Member & Committee Reports	2018 Newspaper Articles Folder
3(a)	1/17/2018 Email from Charlie Blanchard requesting Information on Projects	Review Mail/Phone Messages	Mail Folder
5	Meeting Minutes: 1/17/2018	Approval of Minutes	FY 18 Minutes Binder
6(a)	Invoice #200001693 MACC – Donald Blais Jr Spring 2018 Conference	Approval of Payables	FY 18 Payables Folder
6(a)	Invoice #200001692 MACC – Nicholas Zeo Spring 2018 Conference	Approval of Payables	FY 18 Payables Folder
6(a)	Invoice #200001690 MACC – David Cotter Spring 2018 Conference	Approval of Payables	FY 18 Payables Folder
7(a)	Summary of the Conflict of Interest Law for Municipal Employees	Signing of Documents (DOA, OOC, COC, Ext, Etc.)	MGL Ch 268A Folder
7(b)	Emergency Permit: Mass DOT MA RT-20 (Park Street) Culvert Cleaning	Signing of Documents (DOA, OOC, COC, Ext, Etc.)	Emergency Permit File Folder
8(a)	WPA Form 4 –Notice of Intent: 115 Laurel Road, Palmer, MA, prepared by Lorri McCool, dated December 12, 2017	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0329 file folder
8(a)	Affidavit of Service, Abutter Letter, Abutter Notification Form, Abutters List & Certificates of Mailing	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0329 file folder
8(a)	Figure 1: USGS Topographic Quadrangle	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0329 file folder

8(a)	Figure 2: FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0329 file folder
8(a)	Figure 3: MassGIS Orthophoto & NHESP Map	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0329 file folder
8(a)	WPA Form 5 – Order of Conditions DEP #256-0329, dated 1/23/2018	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0329 file folder
8(a)	Special Conditions for DEP #256-0329; dated 1/23/2018	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0329 file folder
8(b)	WPA Form 1 – Request for Determination of Applicability 271 Breckenridge Street	Schedule of Public Hearings	271 Breckenridge RDA File Folder
8(b)	Stormwater Management Report 271 Breckenridge Street; prepared by Borrego Solar Systems Inc; dated 12/8/2017	Schedule of Public Hearings	271 Breckenridge RDA File Folder
8(b)	Wetlands Delineation Report 271 Breckenridge Street, Palmer, MA, prepared by SWAC Environmental Consultants, Inc., dated 10/5/2017	Schedule of Public Hearings	271 Breckenridge RDA File Folder
8(b)	Wetland Determination Data Forms and Site Photographs, prepared by SWAC Environmental Consultants, Inc., dated 7/26/2017	Schedule of Public Hearings	271 Breckenridge RDA File Folder
8(b)	Site Plan Review 271 Breckenridge Street Project Number: 905-0811 (Sheets 1-5); prepared by Borrego Solar Systems Inc.; dated 12/8/2017	Schedule of Public Hearings	271 Breckenridge RDA File Folder
9(a)	Form 8A: Request for a Certificate of Compliance DEP #256-0269: Palmer Motorsports Park – 58 West Ware Rd	Certificates of Compliance	Palmer Motorsports Park File Box DEP #256-0269
9(b)	Form 8A: Request for a Certificate of Compliance DEP #256-0313: Palmer Green	Certificates of Compliance	DEP #256-0313 File Folder
10(a)	Site Inspection Report & Infiltration Basin Report DEP #256-0309: Boston Road Solar	Project Monitoring	DEP #256-0309 File Folder
10(a)	Site Photos 1/16/2018 DEP #256-0309: Boston Road Solar	Project Monitoring	DEP #256-0309 File Folder
10(b)	Site Inspection Reports DEP #256-0312: MassDOT Toll Booth Removal	Project Monitoring	DEP #256-0312 File Folder
10(c)	Site Inspection Reports DEP #256-0327: Sherwood Lumber	Project Monitoring	DEP #256-0327 File Folder
10(c)	Site Photos 1/16/2018 DEP #256-0327: Sherwood Lumber	Project Monitoring	DEP #256-0327 File Folder
10(c)	Site Photos 1/23/2018 DEP #256-0327: Sherwood Lumber	Project Monitoring	DEP #256-0327 File Folder
11(b)	Notice of retained environmental consultant: Wetland Consultants, Inc.; dated 1/16/2018	Violations & Enforcement	96 Rondeau Road Violation Folder
11(b)	Enforcement Order: 96 Rondeau Road	Violations & Enforcement	96 Rondeau Road Violation Folder

11(c)	Site Photos 17 Hobbs Street	Violations & Enforcement	17 Hobbs Street Violation Folder
11(c)	Notice of Violation Letter – 17 Hobbs Street	Violations & Enforcement	17 Hobbs Street Violation Folder
12(a)	Notice of Public Comment Period for Chapter 91 License	New/Old Business	DEP #256-0324 file folder
12(c)	2017 MA Trails Grant Agreement Contract Forms	New/Old Business	2017 MA Trails Grant File
12(d)	2018 604(b) Grant Application – Watershed Based Planning for Lake Thompson, Palmer MA	New/Old Business	2018 604(b) Grant File
12(d)	Notice of Pre-RFR Meetings for FY 18 604b Water Quality Management Planning Grant	New/Old Business	2018 604(b) Grant File
12(e)	2018 MA Trails Grant Application – Acquisition of MA DOT Turnpike Parcel (Map 15-14)	New/Old Business	2018 MA Trails Grant File
13(a)	MACC Annual Environmental Conference 2018 Information and Registration Form	Upcoming Events, Conferences & Trainings	MACC 2018 Annual Conference Folder