



# TOWN OF PALMER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 – 6:30 PM  
LOCATION: Town Hall Meeting Room

4417 Main St Palmer MA

Donald Blais, Chair  
Dorothy Lawrence, Vice Chair  
David Cotter  
Peter Izyk  
Nicholas Zeo  
Brenda Cole  
Lucas McDiarmid  
  
Heidi Mannarino, Agent

Members Present: Donald Blais

Dorothy Lawrence

David Cotter

Nicholas Zeo

Lucas McDiarmid

Members Absent: Peter Izyk

Brenda Cole

Also Present: Erin Ruggiano, Alyna Veratti, Zachary Olson, Christina Pike, Nick Santangelo, Mark Stinson

1. **Call to Order** 6:30PM Donald Blais (Chair)

2. **Review Correspondence:**

a. Forest Cutting Plan: Peterson Road (Map 15, Lot 7)

The Agent gives a brief background of cutting plan (yet to be approved). The Agent notes questions about potential inconsistencies with information. A brief discussion ensues. David Cotter makes comments on wetlands present.

No further discussion

b. New England Power Company - Geotechnical Investigation Activities

The agent gives background for the project. Mark Stinson made a clarification-based comment for exemption. A brief discussion ensues.

No further discussion.

c. Certificate for Chapter 61: 344 Old Warren Road

The agent gives a brief background. Nickolas Zeo asks about the number of Chapter 61 certifications in Palmer. A brief discussion ensues. Lucas McDiarmid asks about any outstanding details. A brief discussion ensues.

No further Discussion.

**3. Public Inquiries:**

Erin Ruggiano will be giving a presentation at the Palmer Public Library on bat species in the area and potential field outing with weather permitting 10/11/23.

**4. Approval of Minutes: 8/15/2023**

**Call for a Motion to Table**

**Motion by David Cotter**

**Motion seconded by Lucas McDiarmid**

**Motion carries 5-0-0**

**5. Approval of Payables:**

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

- a. Request for Certificate of Compliance: Solar Array L12 Breckenridge St DEP #256-0332

The Agent explains prior field visit to site. The representative from the engineering firm (Nick Santangelo) gives background about the project as well as highlights minor deviations. Mark Stinson provides brief commentary. A brief discussion ensues.

**Call for a Motion**

**Motion by Lucas McDiarmid**

**Motion seconded by David Cotter**

**Motion carries 5-0-0**

**7. Hearings:**

- a. **7:00pm: Cont. Notice of Intent—DEP #256-0370 Old Warren Road (Map 27 Parcel 4)**

- Proposed construction of a single-family home within 200' Riverfront Area.

The Chair and the Agent give background and concerns with NOI presented for project. Discussion of continuance ensues. Lucas McDiarmid asks for DEP questions. Mark comments on riverfront alternatives analysis. Nicholas Zeo asks about appeals and duplicated effort. A brief discussion ensues. Mark Stinson explains avenues of action and process. Dorothy Lawrence asks about request of information and timeline reset. A brief discussion ensues. Alyna Veratti adds a concerned perspective of a property. Abutter. Discussion on consensus ensues.

**Motion to Close 7:30 PM**

**Motion by Nicholas Zeo**

**Motion seconded by Lucas McDiarmid**

**Motion carries 5-0-0**

**Motion to Deny 7:30PM**

**Motion by Lucas McDiarmid**

**Motion seconded by David Cotter**

**Motion carries 5-0-0**

**8. Violations & Enforcement:**

- a. Rt 32 – Erosion of asphalt into intermittent stream

The Agent gives a brief background.

No further discussion.

**9. New/Old Business:**

- a. Site Visit Minutes- Bluewave Solar Project DEP #256-0350

The Agent gives a background to the site visit. A brief discussion ensues.

No further discussion.

b. C4R Quaboag Paddle Follow Up

The Agent gives background to identification of potential kayak access points on the Quaboag River. Nicholas Zeo asks about access by water street. A brief discussion ensues.

No further discussion.

c. Vandalism First Street Gazebo

The Chair and Agent give background to vandalism to town property and extent of damage. A brief discussion ensues to figure out potential solutions to stop it from happening again.

No further Discussion.

**10. Chair, Member, Committee & Agent Reports:**

a. FY23 Annual Report

Agent gives a background on the annual report. Nicholas Zeo comments on precipitation and water levels effects on town (stormwater).

No further Discussion

b. Agent Report

To be revisited next meeting.

**11. Set Next Meeting Date:** The next Conservation Commission meeting is scheduled to occur on Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 6:30 PM in the Town Administration Building Meeting Room located at 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

**12. Adjourn**

**Motion to adjourn 7:53PM**

**Motion by Nicholas Zeo**

**Motion seconded by Lucas McDiarmid**

**Motion carries 5-0-0**

**The items listed which may be discussed at the meeting are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. This meeting will be televised live on Channel 15 and taped and shown on M-Pact.**

Sincerely Submitted,

Justin Enright

Conservation Agent

October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023