



# TOWN OF PALMER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 6th, 2022 – 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

**Members Present:** Donald Blais, Jr.  
Peter Izyk  
Dave Cotter  
Brenda Cole  
Lucas McDiarmid

**Members Absent:** Nick Zeo  
Dorothy Lawrence

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

2. **Chair, Member & Committee Reports:**  
Update: None at this time.

3. **Signing of Documents:**

a. **92 Griffin St COC (Pending submission of documentation and site visit):**

A site visit to establish conditions was held this morning, previous photos and documentation were provided. The minutes from the 1980 meeting in which the OOC was issued, as well as building permits from 1981 were gone over. In the last two OOC's the brook on property was discussed, and it is still there and maintained. The Agent has no reasons for concern.

**A motion to issue a complete COC for DEP#256-027 was made by Lucas McDiarmid.**

**Motion seconded by Dave Cotter.**

**Motion carries 5-0.**

**No further discussion.**

**Review Mail/Phone Messages:**

a. **Forest Cutting Plan:**

The Agent stated there are four properties in one area doing timber harvests on site. She stated she had concerns regarding the stream on the property so she reached out to the State Forester. She received some answers. The Foresters are cracking down on not allowing machinery in buffers. No permanent structures can be placed in the buffers for stream crossings, only temporary structures.

b. **Site Visits:**

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The Agent has been receiving many phone calls/emails regarding doing site visits in the winter. She has explained that she cannot guarantee site visits due to weather but will try the best. She would like to advertise a disclaimer on the website stating site visits are not guaranteed during the winter.

**c. MACC Dues Letter:**

The Agent received a letter from MACC stating what the dues will be for the next fiscal year, for everyone's information.

**D. Sale of property with OOC:**

The Agent has received multiple inquires from people who are buying property with OOCs attached. She explained to the public where you can find the information and what it means. She showed the Town website under Conservation department. She showed links to checklists and the registry of deeds search function.

**4. Agent Position Status Report:**

**a. Update on working list:**

The Agent explained there are some items she is not able to get done due to time constraints, with Meeting Minutes being one of them. Rebekah in the Planning Department has been doing the minutes for months now, but her department is also extremely busy so the minutes will be delayed. The Agent stated the minutes should be the responsibility of the Conservation Department.

-She then mentioned the Budget is being worked on.

-She also mentioned she is working on the applications.

-She then stated she has sent out requests for septic mapping at Forest Lake for the grant underway.

-The website is being updated

**b. Social Media:**

The Agent stated social media (Facebook) needs a mobile number, and it got deactivated due to not having one. She has been trying to stay up to date with social media.

**c. Jurisdiction:**

DCR (Department of Conservation and Recreation) has jurisdiction on tree cuttings unless wetlands are involved and need to be crossed. All inquires need to be sent to DCR.

**d. Administrative:**

The Agent stated there will be two hearings coming up on the 3rd, given that site visits are completed.

**e. Budget:**

The Agent stated that Earth Day will be a budget item. She stated there could also be an arbor day function as well.

**5. New/Old Business:**

**a. Church St. Bridge Replacement DEP 256-0362 Update:**

The agent is still waiting on Thigh and Bond to get back to her on the Minor Activities exemption for the waterways license.

**6. Next Meeting Date: 1/3/2023**

**Motion made by Lucas McDiarmid to adjourn at 7:44 PM**

**Motion seconded by Dorothy Lawrence.**

**No further discussion.**

**Motion Caries 5-0.**

December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022