



TOWN OF PALMER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Robert Ring, Chair
Donald Duffy, Vice Chair
Peter Izyk
Dennis Cote

Palmer Town Building
4417 Main Street
Palmer, Massachusetts 01069

conservation@townofpalmer.com

Agent: Angela Panaccione

Telephone: (413) 283-2611
FAX (413) 283-2637

MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 4, 2014 @ 7:00 PM

Members Present: Robert Ring (Chair)
Donald Duffy (Vice Chair)
Peter Izyk
Angela Panaccione (Agent)

Members Absent: Dennis Cote

Also Present: Tharyn Nein-Large
Sean O'Donnell

Meeting Opens: 7:00 PM – Robert Ring (Chair)

7:00 PM Administrative Matters: Minute Approval

Motion made by Donald Duffy to accept the minutes from Tuesday January 7, 2014

Motion seconded by Peter Izyk

No further discussion – vote taken: 3-0-0

Motion made by Donald Duffy to accept the executive session minutes from Tuesday January 7, 2014

Motion seconded by Peter Izyk

No further discussion – vote taken: 3-0-0

Motion made by Donald Duffy to accept the executive session minutes from Tuesday December 3, 2013 as corrected

Motion seconded by Peter Izyk

No further discussion – vote taken: 3-0-0

Motion made by Donald Duffy to accept the executive session minutes from Tuesday November 19, 2013

Motion seconded by Peter Izyk

No further discussion – vote taken: 3-0-0

7:05 PM Request for an Extension Permit DEP # 256-0262 – David Swirk; 3018 Thorndike Street

The Commission received a request for an extension to the Order of Conditions DEP # 256-0262, submitted by David Swirk, for the proposed work at 3018 Thorndike Street in Palmer, MA 01069. The current OCC is expiring on February 15, 2014 and the applicant is requesting a three (3) year extension to complete the proposed work. The applicant's intent is still the same, to construct a single-family home and several barn-like structures in the middle and rear portion of a 64 acre piece of property. This plan also preserves the bulk of the property in its natural state for wildlife habitat and open space.

Motion made by Don Duffy to extent the Order of Conditions for DEP # 256-0262 for three (3) years, until February 6, 2017

Motion seconded by Peter Izyk

No further discussion – vote taken: 3-0-0– Motion Carries

7:10 PM Administrative Matters: Palmer Motorsports Facility DEP # 256-0269

The Commission discussed the progress of the Palmer Motorsports development. The Agent has conducted several site visits over the past few months and has been in discussion with the applicants over a possible amendment to the Order of Conditions.

During the last site visit the Agent noticed areas of concern with faulty erosion and sediment controls. She discussed the issues with contractor Greg Howe and he's in the process of fixing the areas of concern. Sherman & Frydryk also noticed other areas of concern, during their surveying for the OOC amendment. Keith Terry, of Sherman & Frydryk supplied Palmer Motorsports with plans on where and how to fix the erosion control and sediment problems.

The Commission also discussed the status of the 100-acre Conservation Restriction to be placed on the property prior to development. The Agent informed the Commission the CR is in the works and is being developed by NHESP as a requirement of the conservation permit they issued for development in a state listed priority habitat.

7:20 PM Administrative Matters: Interview New Interested Members

The Commission met with and interviewed two interested new members: Tharyn Nein-Large and Sean O'Donnell.

Tharyn Nein-Large is a master's candidate at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in Landscape Architecture. He is currently working on a thesis proposal, and is interested in a project focusing on the development of a waterfront/River Park located off depot Street/Water Street.

Sean O'Donnell has a degree is Environmental Governance, and has experience with environmental research. He is also considering pursuing a Master's Degree from the University of Massachusetts in the environmental field.

Motion made by Donald Duffy to send a letter to the Town Manager, requesting the appointment of Tharyn Nein-Large and Sean O'Donnell.

Motion seconded by Peter Izyk

No further discussion – vote taken: 3-0-0

7:45 PM Administrative Matters: Open Space and Recreation Plan Discussion

The Commission discussed the update of the 2013 expired Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Agent applied for a District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) grant from Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) for the completion of the 2014 update.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at 7 PM

8:10 PM Meeting Adjourned

Motion made by Donald Duffy to adjourn

Motion seconded by Peter Izyk

No further discussion – vote taken: 3-0-0– Motion Carries

Sincerely Submitted,
Angela Panaccione, Agent