

Minutes
of the
Palmer Conservation Commission
March 6, 2012

Present: Robert Ring, Donald Duffy, Dennis Cote, Glenn Colburn

Absent: Christine Beauregard, Mathew Trybus, Peter Izyk

7:05 CTC Electric, Emery Street at the location of the former Palmer Airport. Heather Commee from Pioneer Environmental representing the applicant. Ms. Commee presented the Commission with a check for \$25 for the filing fee. Ms. Commee discussed the various resource areas located on the former airport property, now owned by JennJill, LLC of Wilbraham. The land is flat along Emery Street in the area of the former runway. It drops steeply to the floodplain associated with the Ware River. In addition to the Ware River and its' Riverfront Resource Area, there are two other small streams on the lower part of the property. Calculating stream flows based on watershed size, Ms. Commee believes the two minor streams should be considered intermittent, with no RFA. In addition to the streams and RFA, the map also shows BVW and the 100 year flood plain. Ms. Commee went on to say that the abrupt change in slopes from floodplain to upland had a corresponding clear change in vegetation from wetland to upland species, making this delineation fairly obvious. No work is proposed at this time.

Donald made a motion to accept the wetland lines as depicted on the plan. Motion seconded and unanimous vote to give a positive determination #1, 2a, and 5. The area is subject to our protection, the delineation is considered accurate, and the area and project is subject to Wetland Bylaw review.

7:30 19 New Hampshire Ave, request for Certificate of Compliance, Mark Cadaropoli owner. DEP file #256-235 issued to Carmine Capua. Glenn visited the site 3/6 and noted that work had been performed outside the work limit line shown on the plan. A shed had been constructed within 35' of the stream, and areas around the shed and on both sides of the driveway that are shown as outside the limit of work have been converted to lawn area. Glenn recommended not issuing a COC until the issue of the shed and lawn are resolved. A site visit will be conducted by a commissioner and the agent, and the homeowner will be notified of our decision.

7:35 Camp Ramah in New England, waterfront improvements. DEP file #256-294, 39 Bennett St. Order of Conditions with standard conditions issued for proposed work.

7:40 The Commission welcomed new conservation agent Glenn Colburn. The commission has been without an agent for a couple years, and looks forward to the additional assistance. Glenn has been hired for ten hours per week.

7:45 Brief discussion of the proposed budget for next fiscal year. The commission has funding for the conservation agent position, plus \$1,000 for additional expenses. Don made the point that the commission has a fund for administering the WPA, but has little money for land acquisition. Money from forest harvesting on town land may be put in an

account for land acquisition, but as it stands now, the timber market is very poor so it may be wise to hold off on harvesting for the near future.

Bob made a motion to adjourn, seconded and voted unanimous.

Next meeting scheduled for March 20th.

Respectfully submitted,
Glenn D. Colburn