



TOWN OF PALMER

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CONSERVATION COMMISSION

PALMER CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING TUESDAY APRIL 16, 2013 @ 7:00 PM

Members Present: Robert Ring (Chair), Donald Duffy, Peter Izyk, Matt Trybus, and Angela Panaccione (Agent)

Members Absent: Dennis Cote

Also Present: Donald Frydryk (Sherman & Frydryk)
Ed Pletman (Camp Ramah, Financial Coordinator)
George Toppi (3134 Main Street, Bondsville)

Meeting Opens: 7:02 PM – Robert Ring (Chair)

7:02 PM Minor Plan Revisions Camp Ramah OOC: DEP # 256-294

Ed Peltman (Camp Ramha) attended tonight meeting with representative Don Frydryk (Sherman & Frydryk) to request for the commission to look at a revision to the docks to hopefully include it as a minor revision to the current Order of Conditions. The new dock would be an EZ Dock floating dock, and would replace the existing dock at the same location off the westerly shore of Pattaquatic Pond. No new alterations to the bank are proposed. All work will be completed by hand and little disturbance to the environment is anticipated. The new galvanized steel posts will be driven into the bottom of the pond by hand, and will result in minimal disturbances to the land under water. The current pond bottom is sand, so hand installation of the posts will not prove problematic.

Motion made by Don Duffy to accept the changes of the revised plan “Camp Ramha in New England: Waterfront Site improvements (Sheet 3 of 4);” dated March 16, 2013; submitted by Sherman & Frydryk; and to incorporate the construction of the new EZ Dock into the existing Orders of Conditions DEP # 256-0294

Motion seconded by Matt Trybus

No further discussion – vote taken: 3-0-1 (Izyk Abstains) – Motion Carries

7:08 PM Public Inquiry: George Toppi – Safety Issues by Bondsville Dam

George Toppi (3134 Main Street, Bondsville) attended tonight’s meeting to address the commission about safety issues by the Swift River, behind the Bondsville Fire Department and Condos, at the former Mill Site. Toppi stated the property is a high-risk safety hazard, especially for teens. Don Duffy supplied a letter he previously sent to the Belchertown Land trust addressing this issue. Two holes are currently present in the

fencing, and no safety measures have been put in place as of yet. The danger arises from steep drops, and uneven and eroding pavement. Bob Ring stated he is fine with the letter being re-sent, as long as the request for “NO Trespassing” signs is omitted. Ring stated he believes people do use this area responsibly.

Motion made by Don Duffy to re-send a letter to the Belchertown Land Trust reiterating the dangers of the holes in the fence and to request the holes be fixed; omitting the request for “No Trespassing” signs.

Motion seconded by Bob Ring

No further discussion – vote taken: 4-0-0 – Motion Carries

*Agent will cc Town Manager as well

7:20 PM Administrative Matters: Agent Report

1. **Possible violation at Nenameseck Sportsman club:** Bob Ring and Angela Panaccione attended a site visit with Karen Hirschberg, DEP on Wednesday April 3, 2013 at 11am. According to areal photos there appears to be unauthorized land clearing in the Riverfront Area. Karen stated there were a few separate locations at the club where land was altered without a permit. Bob did inform Karen that Dave Johnson was in charge of the site visits and permitting there, and he has since passed away. Karen did find one unpermitted violation with the parking lot expansion in the Riverfront Area (RA). Ring spoke on behalf of the club and stated fines should not be levied against the club based on the clubs past work with the Conservation Commission (on land maintenance and trail clean up). Panaccione will send the building permit, for the indoor archery range, to DEP to show conservation did sign off but did not require a filing due to the project being outside of the 100-foot buffer zone.
2. **CKS Auto:** A gentleman from CKS auto came to office hours on Wednesday expressing concern over a past Enforcement Order prohibiting him to park cars in certain areas of the lot. Panaccione recommended he attended the meeting to discuss it with the commission. The gentleman stated he would contact his lawyer and send him. No one attended on CKS behalf.
3. **Lamothe Update:** Laurie Anthony contacted the commission about a snapping turtle caught in the fencing. She also stated Lamothe was adding more structures to the area, that appeared to be rabbit cages. Ring informed the commission he attended a Board of Health (BOH) meeting about the situation, and that the BOH would be issuing their own cease and desist for the burning occurring on site. No court date has been set yet.
4. **Possible Violation at 88 Stimpson Drive:** BOH notified the commission of changes to the plan, specifically expanding the driveway and adding a carport to the property. Panaccione supplied BOH with the OOC that specifically stated any

alterations to the plan, or driveway require additional Con Com approval. BOH said they would notify the applicant and supply the commission with updated plans when received.

5. **Possible Violation at 86 Summer Street:** The planning department reported a possible violation to the commission. There appears to be unauthorized land clearing to the edge of the wetlands, but given the topography of the site it is hard to determine the extent. Ring and Panaccione were going to conduct a site visit prior to tonight's meeting, but had to reschedule.

7:45 PM Administrative Matters: Minute Approval - April 2, 2013

Motion made by Matt Trybus to approve the minutes from Tuesday April 2, 2013 as amended

Motion seconded by Pete Izyk

No further discussion – vote taken: 4-0-0 – Motion Carries

7:50 PM Administrative Matters: Ordinance, Regulations, and Fee's

Bob Ring inquired with the Town Clerk about our Wetland Bylaw Regulations. The only article on file with the Clerk was the regulations for Conservation Lands. Donald Duffy located the originals Regulations from 1988, and supplied them to the commission.

Motion made by Don Duffy that the Regulations presented at tonight's meeting, are the original wetlands regulations adopted at a Special Town Meeting, Warrant Article 4, on September 12, 1988 and approved on September 12, 1988 and approved by the Attorney General on October 7, 1988; and should be re-submitted to the Town Clerk as public record.

Motion seconded by Matt Trybus

No further discussion – vote taken: 4-0-0 – Motion Carries

The commission continued its discussion and revisions of the 1988 Wetlands Ordinance and regulations. The ordinance is outdated (passed 1988), and does not even include any Riverfront standards. The commission finalized the new draft version, and the Agent will mail out a hard copy for a final review.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 7, 2013 at 7 PM

8:51 PM Meeting Adjourned

Motion made by Matt Trybus to adjourn

Motion seconded by Don Duffy

No further discussion – vote taken: 4-0-0 – Motion Carries

Sincerely Submitted
Angela Panaccione, Agent