



TOWN OF PALMER

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CONSERVATION COMMISSION

PALMER CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING TUESDAY APRIL 2, 2013 @ 7:00 PM

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

Members Absent:

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

7:00 PM Administrative Matters

Minute Approval: March 19, 2013

Motion made by Don Duffy to approve the minutes from Tuesday March 19, 2013 as amended

Motion seconded by Denis Cote

No further discussion – vote taken: 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

Chair Report:

1. **Possible violation at Nenameseck Sportsman club:** Bob Ring and Angela Panaccione will go on a site visit with DEP on Wednesday April 3, 2013 at 11am. According to areal photos there appears to be unauthorized land clearing in the Riverfront Area. Bob Ring spoke with Karen Hirschberg, DEP about what the violation may be. 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 is no longer with us.
2. **Intern Update:** Bob Ring has been working with the Eagle Scout Candidate on trail access and marking.

Agent Report:

1. **Boater Buoy Safety System over Swift River:** Dan Beaudette, of the Belchertown Land Trust, contacted the commission about installing a boater buoy safety system on the Swift River, before the dam. Beaudette informed the commission the buoy system is a public safety improvement that is fairly unobtrusive. No land alterations would occur, the buoy system would be

anchored to two (2) existing boulders on the banks of the river. He supplied pictures of the site and boulders to be used.

2. **FCP complaint:** We received a complaint about the Corry Rugg FCP off Rt. 32. Laurie Erickson, of 7 Walters Way, a neighboring abutter stated the harvesters crossed the property line and “took” two of her trees. She also complained the job was left a mess, there were drainage issues and wanted to be sure the operators were staying within the limits of the law Panaccione spoke with Kimball Moore, the licensed forester who is completing the cut. Moore said they were not completed with the cut yet, they just stopped work due to the ground being too wet. He also stated as soon as the area was dry, they would remove the slash piles and stabilize the area with forestry BMPs. In regards to the accidental take of the trees, he spoke to the property owner directly and resolved the issue.
3. **Palmer Motorsports MESA App:** The Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) application requires a signature from the town, for Palmer Motorsports. The commission reviewed the MESA application form and agreed Charlie Blanchard could sign for the town. Town signature is required because the town is one of the listed property owners. The signature is simply procedural, stating the town is aware of the proposed project occurring on their lands.
4. **Adney Russo:** Inquired about purchasing a piece of the Midura property for frontage access to his parcel. The current frontage is all ledge, making the parcel inaccessible, and therefore undevelopable. If he could not purchase a portion he would like to gain an easement, or possibly sell his parcel to the commission if it is undevelopable. Don Duffy stated we cannot, and would not sell the Conservation Lands. They were purchased by a grant. The Commission’s goal is to increase conservation lands. The commission also stated they would not grant an easement, and there is no money to purchase the parcel.

Ordinance, Regulations, and Fee’s: The commission discussed and revised the 1988 Wetlands Ordinance and regulations. The ordinance is outdated (passed 1988), and does not even include any Riverfront standards.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 7 PM

8:30 PM Meeting Adjourned

Motion made by Dennis Cote to adjourn

Motion seconded by Don Duffy

No further discussion – vote taken: 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

Sincerely Submitted
Angela Panaccione, Agent