



TOWN OF PALMER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 5th, 2018 – 6:30 PM

LOCATION: Town Administrative Building Meeting Room

Donald Blais, Chair
David Cotter, Vice Chair
Peter Izyk
Nicholas Zeo
Brenda Cole

Angela Panaccione, Agent

Members Present: Donald Blais, Jr.
David Cotter
Peter Izyk
Nicholas Zeo
Brenda Cole
Angela Panaccione, Conservation Agent

Also Present: Jared King, 96 Rondeau Street
Emily Messing, 96 Rondeau Street
Jack Messing, 96 Rondeau Street
Heide Messing, 96 Rondeau Street
Peter Levesque, Wetlands Consultants, Inc.
Donald Frydryk, Sherman & Frydryk
Ethan Giles, NexAmp
Mike Shea, JJC Materials, Inc. /Palmer Paving Corp
Eric Rahkonen, Northern Construction
Brian Nunes, Sherwood Lumber
Tommy McLean, Sherwood Lumber
Jasper Jenkins, GPI Consultants Inc.
Tim Lemire, GPI Consultants Inc.
Ray Lavoie, GPI Consultants Inc.

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

2. **Chair, Member & Committee Reports:** None

3. **Review Phone/Mail/Email Messages:**

- a. National Grid Notification of Utility Maintenance Activities – Main Street, Bondsville: The proposed work includes the replacement of Pole 4-50 to ensure continues safe and reliable electric service delivery and will occur by the end of the year. The work is considered normal maintenance of an existing facility under 310 CMR 10.02(2)(a)(a) and no change in use or increase in size is proposed.

The work is considered normal maintenance of an existing facility used in the service of providing electricity to the public. No change in use or significant increase in size will result from the maintenance work proposed. Therefore, MECO is planning to perform this work as exempt maintenance in accordance with the provision of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (MGL 131-40) and Regulation 310 CMR 10.02 (2)(a)2 and the Town of Palmer Wetlands Ordinance. In accordance with Section 3 of the Ordinance, they sent this letter to provide notice prior to the commencement of work and express MECO's commitment to protecting wetland resource areas. The sections below provide information regarding the proposed activities and avoidance and mitigation measures.

Activities within Jurisdictional Areas: MECO performed a desktop review of the project area using available resources including MassGIS data layers, USGS 7.5 minute quadrangle maps, NRCS soil maps, aerial photography, and FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps. Based on this assessment, proposed activities at Pole 4-50 will be located within the 200-foot Riverfront Area to the Swift River and Bordering Land Subject to Flooding (BLSF). Through the implementation of appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs), no significant impacts to resource areas or associated buffer zones are anticipated.

Construction Methods and Proposed Mitigation Techniques: MECO has established procedures that are to be followed by all employees accessing and performing construction and maintenance activities on transmission and distribution right-of-ways (ROWs). These procedures, discussed in National Grid's Environmental Guidance for ROW Access, Maintenance and Construction Best Management Practices (EG-303NE), ensure that MECO's projects are completed in accordance with all applicable environmental laws and regulations, as well as, company policies and compliance objectives. A copy of EG-303NE is available upon request. This maintenance project will be completed using conventional overhead electric power line construction and access techniques.

The project will be accessed from Main Street and all work will occur from the roadway. Disturbance to previously undisturbed areas will not be necessary; however, light tree trimming may be required to provide clearance for the overhead cables.

Temporarily disturbed areas will be stabilized and the pole installation site will be restored to pre-construction conditions to the extent practicable. All construction materials, vehicles, and non-biodegradable sediment controls will be removed from the site upon completion of work.

- b. Request for Comments Special Permit: Forest Lake Seasonal Cottages (Map 36-86 & Map 31-1-1): The Agent will draft a letter to the Planning Board outlining the Commission concerns. The Commission confirmed the Resource Area Delineations on site on October 17, 2017. No proposed work was reviewed or approved during the verification of resource area delineations. The Applicant is aware a Notice of Intent (NOI) will need to be filled with the Commission for the proposed project

Specifically, the project will require a filing with the Commission for work in the RFA of the Ware River (site grading off River Street), as well as for the underwater debris removal, beach nourishment and the dock installation. Additionally, the Applicant will also require to file their NOI concurrently with NHESP, as Forest Lake is Priority Habitat for the Brindle Shiner. Furthermore, as Forest Lake is a Great Pond the dock will require a Chapter 91 license from MA DEP, though this cannot be applied for until the applicant receives an Order of Conditions (OOC) from the Conservation Commission.

As currently proposed, it appears most of the access roads & cottage construction, as well as all the stormwater management on site are outside of the Commissions jurisdiction at this time.

4. Public Inquiries: None

5. Approval of Minutes:

- a. May 1, 2018

Motion made by David Cotter to approve the minutes from May 1, 2018 as amended

Motion seconded by Brenda Cole

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

- b. May 15, 2018

Motion made by Peter Izyk to table the approval of the minutes from May 15, 2018 to the next scheduled meeting on June 19, 2018

Motion seconded by David Cotter

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

6. Approval of Payables:

- a. Mileage Reimbursement Angela Panaccione: \$318.83

Motion made by Peter Izyk to approve the payable to Angela Panaccione in the amount of \$318.83, for the reimbursement of travel expense for May 2018, from the Con Com General Expense Account

Motion seconded by Nichols Zeo

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

- b. Palmer Paving (Invoice #193802): \$671.38

Motion made by Peter Izyk to approve the payable to Palmer Paving in the amount of \$671.38, for the payment of gravel for Swift River Trail Project, from the Trail Grant Account

Motion seconded by Nicholas Zeo

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

- c. Amazon Order: \$200.00

Motion made by Brenda Cole to approve the payable to Amazon in the amount not to exceed \$200.00, for the purchase of office supplies (shelves, Russ Cohen Book, 16' Rod Scale, Engineering ruler, new 200' measuring Tape) from the Con Com General Expense Account

Motion seconded by Nicholas Zeo

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

7. Signing of Documents (DOA, OOC, COC, Ext, Etc.): None

8. Schedule of Public Hearings:

- a. Notice of Intent (NOI) DEP #256-0332: L12 Breckenridge Street (Map 7-12, 7-13 & 59-28) – NexAmp d.b.a Palmer Breckenridge Solar, LLC: The applicant has submitted a Notice of Intent for a 6.4 MW Solar Array where the work associated with the installation of it is subject to the WPA & PWO. Brenda Cole recused herself from the proceedings as an abutter to the project.

Donald Blais Jr re-opened the Public Hearing at 7:00pm

The Applicant Ethan Giles, of NexAmp and Mike Shea, of Palmer Paving Corp were present at the hearing. Their consultant, Donald Frydryk, of Sherman & Frydryk was also present at the hearing.

Donald Frydryk began by asking if the Wetland line has been confirmed. The Agent stated yes, the few flags she had issues with are along the access road and changing the location would not influence the plans as the 50-foot NDZ is all along the road anyway from wetlands on both sides and the closest area of work is 2-linear feet from BVW flag W-6.

Donald Frydryk then presented a revised site plan, as well as a letter addressing the Agents concerns. He reviewed the letter submitted on May 31, 2017 as well as the corresponding changes to the site plan in response to the Memorandum dated April 30, 2018 from Angela Panaccione, Palmer Conservation Commission Agent to Michael Marciniac, Chairman of the Palmer Planning Board:

1. The applicant has submitted their site plans to the Mass. Divisions of Fisheries and Wildlife and received an email response (attached) from Adam Kautza, PhD, Coldwater Fisheries (CWF) Project Leader. In this email, Dr. Kautza states that he does not suspect that the solar array will

have a tremendous negative impact on the coldwater fishery in Bannard Brook. A locus plan of the CWF stream and the location of the proposed arrays are attached for reference.

There is no new stormwater outfall proposed within the critical areas which would be subject to the Stormwater Management Policy.

A locus map showing the outline of the Outstanding Resource Water (ORW) associated with the Palmer Reservoir has been submitted to the Commission. As shown on this Map a portion of the project is within the outline, however, this outline is based on the original USGS contours surrounding the reservoir. Previous earth excavation at the site has changed the contours such that all runoff from the project flows away from the reservoir.

2. No work is proposed within a Zone I, which is the protective radius around a public water supply well. There is no public water supply well near this project. A portion of the project is shown to be within the Zone II of the Water District's wells, however, no new stormwater outfall is proposed within the Zone II.

A Zone A, Surface Water Supply Protection Area map is attached for reference. No new stormwater outfall is proposed within the area shown as Zone A and runoff from all other areas of work flows away from the Zone A.

3. The submitted Drainage Report and information submitted in response to the Planning Boards consultant's comments, details items associated with the Stormwater Standards. Based on this information and comments received from the reviewer, the applicant believes they have met the standards of the Stormwater Management Policy.
4. No new stormwater outfalls are proposed within areas of jurisdiction.
5. Since this project does not create any new stormwater outfalls, maintains sheet flow beneath the proposed arrays, and proposed grading mimics existing grades, we feel environmentally sensitive design/low impact development is used. Changes in hydrology, resulting in an increase in the rate of runoff are not anticipated. The project increases the time of concentration from many sub catchments indicates water will be in contact with the ground surface longer than existing conditions, thereby resulting in additional infiltration.
6. This project does not increase peak flows from the site and does not create new impervious surfaces. Runoff from the solar panels will drain to the vegetated ground. Erosion and Sediment controls are included with the plans.
 - a. The solar arrays are not located within jurisdictional areas. See above for comments on environmentally sensitive site design and low impact development.
 - b. A drainage report has been submitted and reviewed by the Planning Board's consultant.
 - c. The arrays will not be placed on slopes greater than 3 to 1.
 - d. An Erosion Control Plan has been submitted.
 - e. A sequence of work has been submitted.
 - f. An Erosion Control Plan and Drainage Report has been submitted.
 - g. All disturbed areas will be stabilized.
 - h. Solar panel rows are spaced to allow sunlight penetration to support vegetation.
 - i. There will be intermittent gaps between racks of panels so the drip edge will not be continuous along a whole row.
 - j. Leading edges of panels are not greater than 10 feet above the ground surface.
 - k. No new stormwater conveyances or outfalls are proposed.
 - l. No work takes place within an estimated habitat. Work within the buffer zone to a critical area will be within the previously disturbed areas for access and utilities to the site.

Revisions to the site plan occurred on 5/28/2018 and include changes in location of utility pole (Sheet C202). Donald Frydryk has staked out the pole locations but the Agent has yet to review the location. Donald Frydryk also stated three (3) trees will be required to be removed for utility pole installation.

Additional plan changes include keeping portions of the pavement proposed for removal (sheets C301 & C302) and changes to the Open Space requirement (sheet C601) which include restoration and plantings in the 100-foot set-back around panels, and the also the removal of the proposed tree cutting in the 100-foot set back as well. The revised plan will also protect 40 acres of open space and include plantings in buffer.

The Agent recommended a continuance to review new documents and do additional site visit of staked pole location.

Donald Frydryk asked the Commission if the Agent had any follow up questions on the site plan changes or the utility pole locations if she could contact him directly prior to the next meeting. The Commission was agreeable to Donald Frydryk's request.

Motion made by Nicholas Zeo to continue the Public Hearing until Tuesday June 19, 2018 at 7:00pm

Motion was seconded by David Cotter

No further discussion – 4-0-0 – Motion Carries (BC recuses as abutter)

9. Requests for Certificates of Compliance:

a) Request for Certificate of Compliance (COC): DEP #256-315 – 42 Beech Street Garage Addition

The Commission received a Request for a Certificate of Compliance from the Philip Anton, property owner at 42 Beech Street (Map 68 Lot 101-103) for the addition of a two (2) car garage under the Order of Conditions for DEP # 256-0315. A site visit occurred Tuesday May 22, 2018 with the Conservation Agent and property owner Phil Anton.

Donald Frydryk submitted a letter as the engineer of record stating the work was completed in substantial compliance with the approved plans and documents. The garage was rotated to be parallel with the existing concrete pad on the west side of the garage rather than parallel with the existing house as originally proposed. The shift moved the garage 2-feet farther from Lake Thompson than originally proposed and did not change the amount of work within the buffer zone or the original approved limit of work.

The Agent determined that the work regulated by the Order of Conditions was completed in compliance with the OOC and approved plans and documents and recommended the Commission issue a Complete Certificate of Compliance with continuing conditions SC #41-42.

Motion made by Peter Izyk to issue a Complete Certificate of Compliance for DEP #256-0315 with continuing conditions #41-42.

Motion seconded by David Cotter

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

10. Project Monitoring

11. Violations & Enforcement

- a. DEP #256-0309: Boston Rd Solar: Paul Les was not present at tonight's meeting. He was supposed to have Pete Levesque, of Wetlands Consultants Inc. review the status of the stream channel restoration & and provide a report to the Commission detailing status of the restoration work as well as any new recommendation to re-stabilize the eroded area. The written report was due to the Commission by today

June 5, 2018. Proposed changes to the stream restoration plan include the addition of large boulders to dissipate the force of the stream flow during high velocity flows. Additional plantings may also be required where this springs erosion resulted in the loss of several of the required plantings of the original restoration plan from 2012.

Peter Levesque will have the plan for the June 19, 2018 meeting.

- b. DEP #256-0327: Sherwood Lumber Replication: Ray Lavoie, Tim Lemire, and Jasper Jenkins, of GPI consultants were present at the meeting; as well as Eric Rahkonen, of Northern Construction and property owner representative Brian Nunes and Tommy McLean, of Sherwood Lumber.

Eric Rahkonen began by presenting the Commission with pictures taken on 5/23/2018 of the Compensatory Storage area and the detention basins off Third Street. All the areas are now well established and vegetated, except for the temporary BVW disturbance area near the track extension by the Compensatory flood storage area. The Agent inquired why that had yet to grow vegetation and Eric replied the wetland seeding of temporary disturbance area will take a while. He supplied a letter from Graham David Anderson, Vice-President of New England Wetland Plants, Inc.

The letter stated: When using our New England Wetland seed mix (Wetmix) on a site it should be expected that a large percentage of the seed will need to sit for a year before germination. This mix in particular includes many species that have a high dormancy (70-96%) which can only be broken by giving the seeds a 60-90 day cold stratification thereby allowing for germination of the dormant seed. Presumably the seed that was put down in the fall has undergone an adequate stratification period to allow for higher germination this spring. Whereas seed that has been put down this spring will only have about 5% germination until the remainder of the seed undergoes stratification next winter thus allowing the balance to germinate at higher rates next spring. Furthermore, the seed that has been on site through the winter will still not germinate until soil temperatures are above 55 degrees for an extended period of time. Even once soil temperatures reach that level the seed will take 20-40 days before any "green up" is really visible. Given that we are one to two weeks into this time frame I believe it is reasonable to begin to see vegetation on site by Mid-June. It is always worthwhile to be aware that conservation seed mixes are nothing like turfgrass and to expect vegetation in the same time frame is an unreasonable expectation.

Eric Rahkonen will email the site picture & the letter from New England Wetland Plants to the Agent.

Brian Nunes stated he is assuming responsibility to doing all maintenance inspections once a month for the post-construction stormwater requirement and he will also monitor the wetlands replication area at this time as well (to ensure trash and debris are not entering the replication area and to also ensure there are no further wash outs of the access road to the replication area.

Ray Lavoie provided the Spring 2018 wetlands replication monitoring report to the Commission. Pictures in the report show substantial growth since the last visit conducted by the Agent. Ray Lavoie also supplied the Commission with a chart showing the survival rate of the plants. The Agent inquired on the high mortality rate of fern/shrub layer. Tim Lemire said a lot of what is naturally coming up is ferns (from seed stock) versus plantings. The area is re-vegetating nicely and rapidly revegetation. Ray Lavoie will provide another replication area monitoring report in fall (By November 6th).

Tim Lemire also supplied the Commission with an as-built drawing of the wetlands replication area and the compensatory floodplain storage area dated 6/4/2018. He will email the as-built & replication monitoring report to the Commission. The Agent will review the as-built plans against the original approved plans and documents and will contact Tim Lemire directly with any questions or concerns.

Tim Lemire inquired when they could apply for a Certificate of Compliance (COC) and what would be required when doing so. The Agent stated that because the project included a wetlands replication area,

under 310 CMR 10.54, they must wait at least two years to ensure 75% survival rate of the plants in the area. She also said further requirements are listed out in Special Condition #58, of the Order of Conditions.

Tim Lemire did wish to point out two deviations on the as-built from the original approved site plan: 1) The berm at top of slopes of the access road to the wetlands replication area & to the compensatory flood plain storage area were added during construction, and at the request of the Conservation Agent to prevent further erosion on the steep slopes. 2) The wetlands replication area was expanded during construction at the Agents request to ensure a hydrologic connection to the existing BVW. Both site plan changes were better for the wetlands and provided additional protective measures to resource areas.

The Agent & Conservation Commission members will conduct a site inspection tomorrow Wednesday 6/6/2018 at 3:00pm. The Agent will email Tim Lemire with any questions or concerns from tomorrow visit and any additional requirements or concerns will be addressed in Fall 2018 replication monitoring report.

Dave Cotter brought up an issue he has with the filling of the water truck. When the violation was first observed it was agreed upon that Sherwood Lumber would not block the trail to fill the truck and that they would also keep the water pump in some kind of containment box. That is no longer occurring and the truck operator is pulling in way too far and not only completely blocking the trail but he is also now causing significant erosion in the area and has damaged the roots of the trees there; causing a public safety threat for trail users. Brian Nunes said he would address that first thing tomorrow and be sure the truck did not cross the trail. He also said we could inspect the area of concern tomorrow during the site inspection and he was amenable to any protective measure the Commission requires.

Tommy McClean brought plans for the observation deck for water-withdrawal area. The plan will include the installation of a PVC pipe under deck to move the water hose back and forth. Stone will be placed under the PVC pipe, and also along the access road to the observation deck to help with drainage and to alleviate some of the erosion and rutting caused by the water truck.

The Agent also reminded Sherwood Lumber representative of the 2018 Source to Sea Cleanup (S2S) which will be held on Saturday 9/29/2018 from 9:00am-12:00pm. Brian Nunes said he would notify the Agent of the number of volunteers that would be participating so she could order the right amount of supplies.

- c. DEP #256-0312: MassDOT Toll Booth Removal: MA DOT will begin work next week. The construction super Richard Masse will contact the Agent for a pre-activity inspection before restoration work begins.
- d. Emery Street Land clearing: The Conservation Agent conducted a site inspection on Wednesday May 9, 2018, and noted the several violations of the Wetlands Protection Act (MGL Chapter 131 Section 40) and the Town of Palmer Wetlands Protect Ordinance (Chapter 168). She immediately issued a cease and desist order and request the property owners attend tonight's meeting to discuss the work that has been conducted so far and future plans for the property so that the Commission can prescribe the appropriate corrective actions to come into compliance with the Act and Ordinance.

During the site inspection on Wednesday May 9, 2018 the Agent observed approximately 4.5 acres of land was recently cleared and grubbed without a permit. It was apparent that work had been performed within areas of jurisdiction, including: 1) Land clearing and grading had occurred within the Riverfront Area (RFA), Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVW) and Buffer zone of a nearby pond and perineal stream. 2) Within the property it was clear that wetlands, including but not limited to, bank, a pond, Bordering Vegetated Wetland, and the Riverfront Area had been disturbed from direct vegetation cutting and removal, stumping, soil disturbance, compaction and rutting from equipment moving throughout the

property. 3) It is evident the BVW is under threat of further damage from erosion, direct evaporation due to the loss of cover and exposure to the sun.

The property owners were not present at tonight's meeting, but they did send an email to the Commission nominating Pete Levesque, of wetlands consultants Inc. as their consultant and also request a continuance until August for the existing conditions plan.

**Motion made by David Cotter to accept Pete Leveque of Wetlands Consultants, Inc. as wetlands consultant
Motion seconded by Peter Izyk
No further discussion - 5-0-0 - Motion Carries**

Motion made by Nicholas Zeo to extend the deadline for the required Existing Conditions Plan to August 7, 2018

**Motion was seconded by David Cotter
No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries**

- e. 96 Rondeau Road: Property owners Jarred King & Emily Messing were present at tonight's meeting, as well as Pete Leveque presented the Resource area restoration plan (RARP) to the Commission.

The restoration plan for altered bordering vegetated wetland (BVW), isolated vegetated wetland (IVW) and buffer zone was developed through on-site fieldwork and a review of historical ortho-photographs, USGS maps, soil maps and interviews with the property owners. Native vegetation indigenous to the site was determined through vegetative inventories of undisturbed areas adjacent to the disturbed area.

In an effort to enhance wildlife habitat, slash and logs from disturbed buffer zone areas will be used to construct wildlife habitat brush piles within the buffer zone. Boulders and logs may also be randomly placed within the buffer zone in an effort to simulate existing site conditions.

Prior to conducting any restoration work, erosion controls consisting of straw wattles along the edge of the BVW area, and entrenched siltation fencing for the remainder of the erosion control line shall be installed.

Recommended equipment may include, but is not necessarily limited to a mini excavator, bobcat and a backhoe. In some cases, a backhoes longer reach may allow the work to be accomplished with no additional disturbance.

The restoration plan has been divided into four (4) parts, based on the type of area impacted and the restoration required. The following restoration areas, BVW, IVW, cart path and buffer zone are detailed below.

BVW Restoration (104 SF): This area is adjacent to the intermittent stream at the northeast corner of the property. Minimal grading is required in this area in that, a "pit and mound" topographic surface currently exists.

- Straw wattles will be staked in place along the top of the stream bank between the bank and the disturbed BVW.
- Large logs shall be removed and the topographic surface left in a "pit and mound" fashion. Minimal grading may be required to create the "pit and mound" surface in some areas.
- Care must be taken to preserve the existing vegetation, which has begun to establish itself.
- Install plugs of tussock sedge and marsh marigold in a random pattern no closer than five feet on center.
- Overseed the area with a New England WETMIX seed.
- Lightly mulch with straw at a 50% rate of coverage.

IVW Restoration (123 SF): This area appeared to have been an IVW consisting of a very small depression containing hydric soils. Vegetation was not observed during our initial inspection; however, during recent subsequent inspections evidence of skunk cabbage spouting was observed. The restoration goal of this area is to create a very slight depression area, which the surrounding land drains to. Care must be taken to preserve the existing hydric (organic) soil and the skunk cabbage vegetation.

- Separate logs, rocks and stumps from the soil piles surrounding the area.
- Grade soil from the piles to form a slight depression for the IVW.
- Randomly place rocks and logs.
- Create a wildlife habitat brush pile 8' long, 6' wide 4' high.
- Install plugs of marsh marigold and tussock sedge.
- Plant trees (red maple & yellow birch).
- Overseed the area with a New England WEMIX seed.
- Overseed buffer zone areas with New England Conservation / Wildlife seed.
- Place boulders along the cart path at the entrance to the IVW.

Cart Path:

- Relocate boulders to the entrances of restored areas as shown.
- Grade piles of soil from the side of the cart path to blend with original grades.
- Overseed the cart path with New England Conservation / Wildflower seed.

Buffer Zone:

- Separate rocks, boulders and soil from piles.
- Grade soil from piles to blend with original grades on the sides of the disturbed areas.
- Randomly place rocks and boulders.
- Create a wildlife habitat brush pile 8' long, 6' wide 4' high.
- Plant trees (red maple & yellow birch).
- Overseed with New England Conservation / Wildflower seed.
- Place boulders at the entrance of the buffer zone area.

Property owner Jarred King will be doing the restoration work himself, under the supervision of Peter Levesque. Peter asked if he would be required to be on site constantly, or if he could just complete routine inspections and be available by phone if Jared had any questions or concerns. Brenda Cole ask if the Agent will also be inspecting the restoration work and the Agent said yes she would be there during each proposed phase. The Commission was agreeable to Peter Levesque not having to be constantly on site as long as the Agent conducted routine inspections on behalf of the Commission and Jared King contacted her during each phase.

Peter Izyk asked if the work proposed beyond the property line was allowed by the neighbor and Jared King stated he did get permission from the land owner to do the restoration work on the bank.

Peter Levesque reviewed the construction sequence again with the Commission and stated they will begin with restoring the bank and BVW of the stream channel and working their way back (to area of house).

The Agent asked when work was anticipated to begin. Jared King said hopefully this weekend they can install the erosion and sediment controls. The Agent will conduct a site visit Monday 6/11/2018 at 4:30pm to review the erosion controls and to authorize restoration activities to commence.

The Agent recommends the Commission approve RARP as proposed and authorize work to commence.

Motion made by Nick Zeo to approve the Resource Area Restoration Plan; Prepared by Wetlands Consultants, Inc; Dated June 1, 2018

Motion was seconded by Brenda Cole

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

12. New/Old Business

- a. Administration of 2017 MA Trails Grant: SCA Scheduling, Etc: The parking lot has been completed by DPW. Dave Cotter is working on brush removal. The DPW will take the brush to compost pit on Old Warren Road. An additional site visit was conducted on May 14, 2018 with AmeriCorps at First Street at 1:00pm. The Agent, Dave Cotter and Nick Zeo were present. The Agent marked the trees to be removed with spray paint. It looks like we may not even need stump grinding so that would save us \$500 off the budget. Brodeur fence will be scheduled after trail completed to install the perimeter fence around the parking lot and at the edge of the stone wall. The Agent got quote from Belson for site amenities (benches, trash cans & ADA table) for a total \$6573.27, she is also soliciting bids from a few other companies to see if anyone closer will be cheaper. Belson quoted 4-6 weeks for delivery. She also said she will need to draft a purchase order and set them up as a vendor. She will call them tomorrow to discuss a July 1st payment.

During the site visit with AmeriCorps two issues came up. 1) Trail Ties: AmeriCorps is not sure if they can assemble both the trail ties and the trail frame in the time they are there. Originally Pathfinder was going to pre-assemble the trail ties but due to the time of year and insufficient staff within the carpentry department they could not do it. So, the Commission and volunteers will have to assemble the 400 trail ties prior to July 16th. The Trail Tie assembly will happen the weekend of July 14-15 at the Agent's father's workshop. She will bulk order wood this week as well. 2) Observation Deck Construction: AmeriCorps cannot build the deck as someone with a Construction Supervisors License (CSL) must oversee the work. The Agent will bid out the deck to contractors and will also see about either Lowes or Home Depot doing it as well.

A full Commission final planning site visit is scheduled for Monday July 9, 2018 at 5pm.

- b. Community Rain Barrel Program: Sold 102 Rain Barrels. Distribution will be Saturday June 9, 2018 from 9am-11am. Need 3-4 people to assist with unloading the trucks Saturday at 8:00am. Nick & Peter will help unload. Dave will pick other barrel from PHCC tomorrow and bring to office.
- c. Letter from Lori Anthony Re: Blake Lamothe 103 Water Street: The Agent conducted a site inspection and reviewed the fence and request debris be cleared as soon as possible.
- d. 2018 "Its Clean" Bacteria Sampling: Begins Wednesday June 13, 2018 – First St, Bennett Street & Arrgo Movers. Nick Zeo will sample First Street on 6/13, then Dave Cotter will take over from 6/28 on. The Agent will sample Bennett Street from 6/28 on.
- e. MVP Grant Award: The Town of Palmer has been awarded \$25,000 through the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) grant program. Over \$2 million in grant funding has been awarded to 82 towns and cities across the Commonwealth to complete climate change vulnerability assessments and develop resiliency plans through the program. MVP provides communities with technical support, climate change data and planning tools to identify hazards and develop strategies to improve resilience.

Through the MVP program, municipalities work through a community-based workshop process to identify key climate-related hazards, vulnerabilities and strengths, develop adaptation actions, and prioritize next steps. Results of the workshops and planning efforts will be used to inform existing local plans, grant applications, and policies, such as local hazard mitigation plans. The MVP program is led in each town by an experienced Project Coordinator from the town with a core team of town staff and volunteers representing town planning departments, emergency managers, conservation commissioners, economic councils, the business community and other key stakeholders. Upon successful completion of the program, municipalities are designated as a

“Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) program community,” which enables them to compete in the Massachusetts Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs’ MVP Action Grant program.

- f. **LAND Grant:** The Commission is applying for a LAND grant to acquire the 92 acre MADOT turnpike parcel. The goal is to couple the LAND grant with a 2018 Trails grant the Commission already applied for in February. An appraisal is scheduled for 6/14/18 at 1:00pm. The Agent and Dave Cotter will accompany the appraiser to the site. It is a six (6) mile round trip hike from Old Warren Road to the culvert under I-90. Also the Agent & Chairman Blais will attend the Town Council meeting on Monday 6/11/2018 at 6:30pm to present the resolution that is required in the grant application. The Town Council must vote to appropriate, and/or borrowing the total project cost of \$112,675.00. The LAND grant reimburses up to 70% of the total project costs.

13. Upcoming Events, Conferences & Trainings:

14. Office Closed:

- Wednesday June 27, 2018 (MSMCP Fern & Shrub ID Training)

15. Set Next Meeting Date: Tuesday June 19, 2018 @ 6:30pm

16. Cancel Meeting: Tuesday July 3, 2018 @ 6:30pm

17. Meeting adjourned: 9:30 PM

Motion made by David Cotter to adjourn at 9:30 PM

Motion was seconded by Brenda Cole

No further discussion – 5-0-0 – Motion Carries

Sincerely Submitted,

Angela Panaccione
Palmer Conservation Commission Agent



TOWN OF PALMER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Donald Blais, Chair
David Cotter, Vice Chair
Peter Izyk
Nicholas Zeo
Brenda Cole

LOCATION: Town Administrative Building Meeting Room
4417 Main Street, Palmer MA 01069

Angela Panaccione, Agent

Meeting Documents

Tuesday, June 5th, 2018 – 6:30 PM

The following is a list of documents used at the above meeting, in addition to those included in the agenda packet which is part of the official record of the meeting:

#	Description	Agenda Item	Retained
2(a)	National Grid Notification of Utility Maintenance Activities – Main Street, Palmer; dated 5/31/2018	Review Phone/Mail/Email Messages	WMECO File Folder
2(b)	Request for Comments Special Permit: Forest Lake Seasonal Cottages (Map 36-86 & Map 31-1-1); dated 5/24/2018	Review Phone/Mail/Email Messages	Seasonal Cottages File Folder
5(a)	Meeting Minutes: 5/1/2018	Approval of Minutes	FY 18 Minutes Binder
5(b)	Meeting Minutes: 5/15/2018	Approval of Minutes	FY 18 Minutes Binder
6(a)	Mileage Invoice Angela Panaccione – May 2018: \$318.83	Approval of Payables	FY18 Payable Folder
6(b)	Palmer Paving Invoice #193802 – Gravel for First Street Parking lot: \$671.38	Approval of Payables	FY18 Payable Folder
6(c)	Amazon Wish List Order	Approval of Payables	FY18 Payable Folder
8(a)	WPA Form 3: Notice of Intent – Proposed Solar Array L12 Breckenridge Street; prepared by Sherman & Frydryk Inc; dated 12/8/2017	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0332 File Folder
8(a)	Notice of Intent Narrative – Proposed Solar Array L12 Breckenridge Street; prepared by Sherman & Frydryk Inc; dated 3/28/2018	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0332 File Folder
8(a)	Wetlands Delineation Report L12 Breckenridge Street, Palmer, MA, prepared by Wetlands Consultants, Inc., dated 12/19/2017	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0332 File Folder
8(a)	Wetland Determination Data Forms and Site Photographs, prepared by Wetlands Consultants, Inc., dated 12/19/2017	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0332 File Folder
8(a)	Palmer Breckenridge Solar Project Number: 03256A (Sheets 1-10); prepared by Sherman & Frydryk Inc; Signed & Stamped by Donald Frydryk; dated 1/19/2018; Revised 5/28/2018	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0332 File Folder
8(a)	Stormwater Management Report Proposed Solar Array L12 Breckenridge Street; prepared by Sherman & Frydryk Inc; Signed & Stamped by Donald Frydryk; dated January 2018	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0332 File Folder

8(a)	DEP File Number w/ Comments; Prepared by Mark Stinson MADEP; dated 4/4/2018	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0332 File Folder
8(a)	MA DEP Wetlands Program Policy 17-1: Photovoltaic System Solar Array Review	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0332 File Folder
8(a)	MA DEP Evaluation of 10.58(5) Redevelopment Projects; Prepared by Sherman & Frydryk; dated 3/18/2018	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0332 File Folder
8(a)	Response to DEP Comments File #256-0332; Prepared by Donald Frydryk; dated 4/16/2018	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0332 File Folder
8(a)	Application for Conservation Permit (ACP) under Local Ordinance Chapter 168; Prepared by Donald Frydryk; dated 3/8/2018	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0332 File Folder
8(a)	Request for a Waiver from Palmer Local Wetlands Ordinance (Chapter 168) & Regulations; Prepared by Donald Frydryk; dated 3/8/2018	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0332 File Folder
8(a)	Letter to Palmer Planning Board in response to topics discussed at the first public hearing for this project and from Memorandum from VHB to Michael Marciniec, Planning Board Chainman dated May 7, 2018 for both the Site Plan Approval Application and Stormwater Application; Prepared by Donald Frydryk; dated 5/31/2018	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0332 File Folder
8(a)	Letter to the Palmer Conservation Commission in response to the Memorandum dated April 30, 2018 from Angela Panaccione, Palmer Conservation Commission Agent to Michael Marciniec, Chairman, Palmer Planning Board; Prepared by Donald Frydryk; dated 5/31/2018	Schedule of Public Hearings	DEP #256-0332 File Folder
9(a)	Form 8A: Request for a Certificate of Compliance DEP #256-0315: 42 Beech Street Garage Addition – Phil Anton	Certificates of Compliance	DEP #256-0315 File Folder
9(a)	Form 8B: Certificate of Compliance DEP #256-0315: 42 Beech Street Garage Addition – Phil Anton	Certificates of Compliance	DEP #256-0315 File Folder
10(b)	Sherwood Lumber Wetland and Flood Plain Mitigation Plan Monitoring Report Spring 2018 (5 pages total); Prepared by Greenman-Pedersen, Inc; Signed by Ray Lavoie; dated May 23, 2018	Violations & Enforcement	DEP #256-0327 File Folder
10(b)	Letter from New England Wetlands Plants to Brad Medeiros Re: Wetmix; from New England Wetland Plants; dated 5/15/2018	Violations & Enforcement	DEP #256-0327 File Folder
10(b)	Wetlands and Flood Plain As Built Survey Job No. MAX-2013115 (Sheet 1 of 1); Prepared by Greenman-Pedersen, Inc; Signed & Stamped by Robert DeFrancesco; dated June 4, 2018	Violations & Enforcement	DEP #256-0327 File Folder
10(b)	Site Photos; Prepared by John Eric Rahkonen of Northern Construction; dated May 23, 2018	Violations & Enforcement	DEP #256-0327 File Folder
10(c)	Email Update RE: Palmer - I-90 Exit 8 Restoration; from Richard J. Masse, P.E. District Two Project Development Engineer; dated 6/1/2018	Violations & Enforcement	DEP #256-0312 File Folder

10(d)	Notice of retained environmental consultant: Peter Levesque/Wetland Consultants, Inc.; Email from Helen Hermanson; dated 5/29/2018	Violations & Enforcement	171 Emery Street Violation File Folder
10(d)	Request for Extension of Existing Conditions plan until August 31, 2018; Email from Helen Hermanson; dated 5/29/2018	Violations & Enforcement	171 Emery Street Violation File Folder
10(e)	Restoration Plan Narrative 96 Rondeau Street (Includes Both Parts 1 & 2 of Restoration Plan) WIC Job # 18-003; Prepared by Wetlands Consultants, Inc.; dated 6/1/2018	Violations & Enforcement	96 Rondeau Road Violation Folder
11(a)	Email Correspondence w/ David Ciernia, SCA Conservation Service Coordinator RE: Swift River Project; dated 5/28/2018	New/Old Business	2017 Trail Grant Binder
11(d)	Email: C4R 2018 Bacteria Kit Distribution; from Keith Davies; dated 6/1/2018	New/Old Business	C4RWC File Folder
11(e)	Press Release: Palmer Awarded Climate Vulnerability Preparedness Funding; By Rep. Todd Smola; dated 6/1/2018	New/Old Business	MVP Grant Binder
11(f)	Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND) Grant FY 2019 (BID ENV 19 DCS 01) Posting Date: March 23, 2018	New/Old Business	2018 Acquisition of the Turnpike Parcel Binder
11(f)	FY 2019 LAND Grant Application	New/Old Business	2018 Acquisition of the Turnpike Parcel Binder
11(f)	Town Council Resolution to apply for, accept and expend a grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Division of Conservation Services (DCS) Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND) Grant Program	New/Old Business	2018 Acquisition of the Turnpike Parcel Binder
11(f)	Resume & Statement of Qualifications: Ellen H. Anderson; Massachusetts Certified General Real Estate Appraiser License # 3948, Expires 8/14/2019	New/Old Business	2018 Acquisition of the Turnpike Parcel Binder