

## **MINUTES OF APRIL 11, 2018 MEETING**

A meeting of the Longmeadow Conservation Commission was called to order at 7:00 P.M. on April 11, 2018 in the conference room at the Longmeadow Police Station.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair, Al Laakso, David Dumais, Peter Bouvier, Wayne Ottani; Absent: Andrea Chasen, Stephen Gazillo, John Bresnahan

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Lori Benoit from Stantec Consulting Services.

**MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING:** The minutes of March 14, 2018 were accepted as presented.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Salary Account \$2,196, Maintenance \$300, Office Supplies \$100, Misc. \$370, Con Com Trust Fund \$9,026.52, Con Com Wetland Protection Fund \$7,524.65.

The CC expresses extreme appreciation for the 15 years of service that former secretary Esther Moomjiam offered to this Commission.

**RDA EVERSOURCE West Chestnut St.** – Ms. Lori Benoit from Stantec presented Eversource's case for the creation of paved surfaces to provide maintenance and service on the Energy Line 1394 on three separate locations within Eversource's ROW. All appropriate BMPs and erosion and sedimentation control will be in place with temporary matting used at specific locations (matting system approved for Eversource by MassDEP) and later removed. Chair Al Laakso pointed out some encroachment in Eversource's ROW (2<sup>nd</sup> site), although it's not a strictly CC issue. Al Laakso pointed out as a precaution that Tennessee Gas Line Company should be notified of the project and approve the handling and displacement of heavy equipment above the gas line that runs through a portion of the site. Structure on Site #3 is nearly 100' tall and it will be completely replaced. Ms. Benoit indicated that six trees near a buffer zone need to be cut to service the area but work is still within guidelines; also noted that no chemical control are required for this work. Chair Laakso commends the thoroughness of the submission and indicates that a site visit is not necessary at this time. He proposes that CC respond with a DOA Negative Determination 3 with the condition that CC gets notified when erosion control devices are up so a site inspection can be done, as well as Negative Determination 6. All in favor.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Laakso indicates a severe flooding due to a beaver dam in Longmeadow Brook that is diverting flow from CT river and heading south into Bark Haul Road; this road must be kept passable to allow Tennessee Gas Pipeline access into the Valve Stations (when flood occurs access is compromised), therefore Mike Callahan from *Beaver Solutions* and Geoff McAlmond (Longmeadow DPW) will provide a recommendations for the beaver dam breaching and installation of beaver deceiver. Commissioner Wayne Ottani pointed out that there is another culvert with another barrier

on West Rd while Chair Laakso indicated that a tree has fallen on Bark Haul Rd that will need to be cleared for passage to said valve station. On another note, Chair Laakso indicated that, while CC was notified by the Planning Board of an upcoming site review meeting for the Brewer-Young Mansion, CC won't be participating in the review since no wetlands are within or in the vicinity of the project's site. Also, Nature Conservancy, along with Commissioner Peter Bouvier paid a visit to CC land near the CT River and copies of the report were sent to CC: site is in despair and could be a mitigation area, therefore a recommendation was submitted for specific trees to be planted (specific spacing noted) that are shade tolerant and better resistant to Dutch Elm disease, while encouraging the elimination of vines (cut and herbicide painting on stump). Large amounts of slash/branches have been dumped in the area and there's a large number of ostrich ferns must be cleared out; slashing of plants was approved as necessary. On a separate note, a resident of West Rd. has requested an Emergency Certification for rotten ash trees that could bring down power line. Commissioners Bouvier and Ottani will perform a site visit at the end of the week to assess the matter.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bianca Damiano  
*Secretary*