

MINUTES OF MAY 11, 2016 MEETING

A meeting of the Longmeadow Conservation Commission was called to order at 7:02 P.M. on May 11, 2016 in the conference room at the Longmeadow Police Station.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair, Al Laakso, Stephen Gazillo, David Dumais, John Bresnahan, Peter Bouvier and Sheri Knight

OTHERS PRESENT: Chris Polatin, David Sagan, Markelle Smith, Alan Hobart

MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING: The minutes of March 23, 2016 were accepted as amended.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Salary Acct. \$966.32; Maintenance \$850; Office Supplies \$100; Misc. \$1000; Con Com Trust Fund \$8883.48; Con Com Wetland Protection Fund \$8263.65. Recommendation was made to use the maintenance account for the expense of putting up boundary markers/metal pins to identify property lines of CC land and the Hobart property. Peter Bouvier will contact Smith Associates regarding this work.

Chris Polatin of Polatin Ecological Services, David Sagan biologist with Conte Refuge and Markelle Smith with the Nature Conservancy came before the CC to discuss plans for the CC land in the Longmeadow flats. They will be working with National Heritage surveying the land and controlling bittersweet. The DEP sign will be put up again when the work begins. The CC will be kept informed of the progress. Markelle mentioned that 338 acres have been transferred to the Conte Refuge. Over 3 years of restoration of 230 acres of wetland easement will occur. Eventually all land will be under the Conte Refuge. Proposed trails are part of the plan; also tree plantings and hydraulic restoration. Chris Polatin will return to the CC with the restoration plan. David Sagan stated that the Flap grant had been approved and hoped to receive the funds soon. He will be working with the Youth Conservation Corp group at Fannie Stebbins. They will be pulling water chestnut. The youth will also get an environmental education.

Alan Hobart resident of Longmeadow requested he be on the CC agenda. His property abuts the community gardens and Pomeroy Plots. Mr. Hobart received a letter from the CC requesting he remove some of his property (a trailer and plywood) from CC land. Mr. Hobart complained about receiving the letter. He suggested the CC check out the land where other equipment has been stored. The CC will make a site visit to the Pomeroy Plots. It was verified by Chair Al Laakso that the DPW was given permission at one time to store some equipment because of the work being done in the area. It was also noted that the CC has at various times sent letters to residents requesting they take care of a problem that had been observed and some residents chose to come before the CC. It is noted that Mr. Hobart has removed his property from CC land.

OTHER BUSINESS: The CC signed off on a Certificate of Compliance and an Emergency Certification Form giving permission to cut down and remove an oak tree and trim adjacent trees with branches leaning over a swimming pool.

At the request of the Longmeadow Board of Health Chair Al Laakso was going to verify with the DEP the policies/regulations regarding mosquito control and spraying in the wetlands.

Commissioner Sheri Knight volunteered to be on the CPC board representing the CC.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.
Respectfully submitted
Esther M. Moomjian