

MINUTES OF THE MAY 23, 2007 MEETING

A meeting of the Longmeadow Conservation Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM on May 23, 2007, in the conference room at the Longmeadow Police Station.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Albert Laakso, Jim Simon, Sheri Knight, Scott Foster and Stephen Gazillo. Absent: John Bresnahan and Karen Chadwell.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dennis Callahan, Andrew Crane, Tom Baggott

MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING: The minutes of May 9, 2007, were accepted as amended.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Salary account, \$555.18; Maintenance account, \$850; Misc. account, \$390.65. Al Laakso also reported that he had asked Mike Wrabel of the DPW for additional signs identifying the Riverfront area as Conservation land. The Treasurer's report was accepted.

NOI 205-281 – 260 Anthony Rd - Andrew Crane from the Pioneer Yacht Club was present and went over the plans for a 16' x 30' wooden deck to be built on four concrete columns. Compensatory storage for the columns will be provided under the deck. The CC went over the NOI and asked Mr. Crane for additional information on page 3 of the NOI. Mr. Crane will submit an amended page 3, completing section B, F. Riverfront area and he will also amend the map. The CC also requested a site visit on May 30th at 5 PM. Mr. Crane agreed to continue the hearing to June 13, 2007.

RDA – 29 Longfellow Drive – Dennis Callahan was present and requested the CC to give him permission to put in plantings to prevent erosion of his property that backs up to a dingle. No work will be done by machinery. Mr. Callahan also noted that the branches of a tree that is on his neighbor's property are leaning over on his property. He requested permission to trim/cut the branches that are on his side of the yard. Motion was made and passed to issue a Negative Determination of Applicability.

Farming: Tom Baggott, farmer, was present, at the request of the CC, to discuss his plans for farming. He has a lease with the Town and plants corn and squash. He explained that the farming of the corn would be complete by July 24th after which he will harvest the squash. The product he uses on the cornfields is called row cover (agrilon); it enhances the growing of the corn earlier and reduces the need of pesticide to one spray.

Mr. Baggott also noted an area where there are holes in the topsoil and the area is not suitable for farming. He discussed it with Mike Wrabel and suggested that other areas be covered with the dirt from the holes to make the areas look better. He asked Mike Wrabel to discuss it with the CC. Mr. Baggott asked who he would discuss his request for a long-term lease extension. The CC suggested that he call Mike Wrabel; the DPW is the governing body but would also ask the CC to approve it.

OTHER BUSINESS: Commissioner Scott Foster requested that a few signs be placed at the gardens prohibiting persons from picking the plants or vandalizing the gardens. Scott will check with Mike Wrabel of the DPW regarding the signs.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Esther M. Moomjian, Secretary

The next meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, June 13, 2007, in the conference room at the Longmeadow Police Station, Williams Street.