

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
March 14, 2019

Members Present:

Henry A. Kozloski, Chair
Sheryl Becker
S. Page Fallon
Magda Galiatsos
Jill Messick

Members Absent:

Frank Meagher

Also Present:

Pam Kerr
Amanda Boissonneault

Mr. Kozloski called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

1. Certificate of Compliance & Request for Extension – 306 S. Westfield St. - Ditomaso

Mr. Ditomaso informed the Commission that all work has been completed and has requested a Certificate of Compliance. Current site conditions do not allow for a site visit as this time. A request for an extension was also submitted due to the Order of Conditions expiring on April 14, 2019. The Commission will conduct a site visit as soon as the snow has melted.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Mr. Fallon to extend the Order of Conditions for 306 S. Westfield Street until April 14, 2020.

VOTE 5-0

2. Discussion & Possible Vote – Conservation Commission Bylaws

The Commission Members reviewed a draft version of Conservation Commission Bylaws that include language for the following: name and purpose, elections, officers, consultants and honorary members, duties of members, committees, meetings, quorum, appointments and vacancies, hearings, and amendments. Mr. Fallon asked if the proposed bylaw covered how many members can be appointed to the Commission. The number of members allowed on the Commission can be found under MGL Ch. 40 Sec. 8C, which states there shall be no less than three and nor more than seven members.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Mr. Fallon to adopt the Agawam Conservation Commission Bylaws as written.

VOTE 5-0

3. Discussion – Local Wetland Bylaw

Ms. Kerr provided the members with the MACC model and examples of local wetland bylaws from different communities. Regulations will need to be written to support the bylaws. Ms. Kerr explained the Commission would work with the Law Department to complete the process

and will then need City Council approval. The members discussed the possibility of bylaws for additional buffer zone requirements, increased oversight over vernal pools and isolated wetlands, requiring performance bonds, and penalties for violations. Ms. Messick recommended a fifty foot no work zone, which has been adopted by other communities. The Commission Members were in agreement that creating and adopting local wetland bylaws would help to strengthen oversight, further protect resource areas, and would help to prevent some of the current problems that exist in Town. Mr. Kozloski asked for this item to stay on the agenda for further discussion.

4. Enforcement Order Updates - Federal Street, Bondi's Island

Federal Street – The Building Inspector informed the Commission and the Developer of a breach in the silt fence on the northwest side of one of the homes, and it has since been repaired.

Bondi's Island – The Commission was informed that a restoration plan is still being prepared. Mr. Donelan from the City of Springfield will keep the Commission informed on any new developments.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to extend the Enforcement Order until April 13, 2019.

VOTE 5-0

5. Approval of Minutes – February 14, 2019 & February 28, 2019

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Becker to approve the February 14, 2019 minutes as written.

VOTE 5-0

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Mr. Fallon to approve the February 28, 2019 minutes as written.

VOTE 4-0-1 (Galiatsos abstained)

6. Correspondences and Complaints

Mr. Fallon received a complaint for the dumping of materials and soils near a wetland along the west side of the Junior High School property. Mr. Fallon said he will visit the property the next day and take photos to share with the members.

7. Public Hearing (Continued to 3/28/19) – Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation – 0 & 683 S. Westfield St. –DePalma
8. Public Hearing (Continued to 3/28/19) – Request for Determination of Applicability – 586 Mill Street – Way Finders, Inc.
9. Public Hearing (Cont. to 3/28/19) –Notice of Intent – 466 South Westfield Street – Shibley/Sweeney
10. Public Hearing (Cont. to 3/28/19) – Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation - 0, 1246 & 1266 Springfield St. – Eagle Investments, LLC

11. Public Hearing (Cont. to 3/28/19) – Request for Determination of Applicability – 176 Garden Street – The Russian Pentecostal Church
12. Public Hearing (Continued to 3/31/19) – Notice of Intent – Springfield Water & Sewer Commission – M Street & Connecticut River
13. Certificate of Compliance (Tabled to 4/11/19) – CT Expansion Project Suffield St. - TGP

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM