

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
October 11, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Frank Meagher

ALSO PRESENT:

Pamela Kerr  
Amanda Boissonneault

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

1. 6:00 PM - Request for Determination of Applicability – 466 S. Westfield Street - Reidy

Jeff Smith from Salvini Associates was in attendance to present the RDA for 466 South Westfield Street. A site visit was held last week with Commission members and two minor changes were made to the flagging. Resource areas include bordering vegetated wetland, intermittent stream and its associated bank. Mr. Smith provided revised site plans this evening and stated that Flag A34 was moved approximately 8 feet east and Flag A50 was moved approximately 5 feet east per the October 10<sup>th</sup> site visit.

Motion made by Ms. Becker and seconded by Ms. Messick to issue a Positive Determination of Applicability for the wetland delineation on property owned by Reidy at 466 South Westfield Street.

VOTE 5-0

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Becker to take the agenda out of order.

VOTE 5-0

5. Public Hearing Continued – Notice of Intent – 1178 Suffield Street - Hrom

Mr. Mocko submitted a letter on October 10, 2018 requesting to continue the public hearing to the Commission's October 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to continue the Public Hearing for 1178 Suffield Street until the Commission's October 25, 2018 meeting.

VOTE 5-0

6. Enforcement Order Updates

Federal Street – No Update

7. Approval of Minutes – September 27, 2018

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Mr. Fallon to approve the September 27, 2018 minutes.

VOTE 4-0-1 (Galiatsos abstained)

Correspondences and Complaints

The Commission received a complaint from the owner of 343 North West Street about a neighbor that has dug a trench in order to drain water towards his property. Mr. Kozloski suggested a site visit should be scheduled to determine if there is a violation or not; the members agreed. A site was scheduled for the following day with members Fallon and Kozloski.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Becker to put the agenda back in order.

VOTE 5-0

2. 6:15 PM – Public Hearing – Notice of Intent – 28 Cynthia Place – Champagne

Filipe Cravo from R. Levesque Associates and property owner Ron Champagne were in attendance to present this Notice of Intent for the construction of two retaining walls. Mr. Cravo explained that Mr. Champagne would like to construct a retaining wall on the southern side of the driveway and near the southern side of the home. The applicant would like to not have such a steep slope next to the driveway, would like the ability to landscape the area, and is concerned about erosion. A wetland replication area is shown on the plan to compensate for a small area of bordering vegetated wetland was accidentally filled during construction and the construction of the retaining wall. Mr. Kozloski stated there is an intermittent stream at the rear of the property, and the applicant filed a NOI for the construction of his home in 2015. There is still an open order of conditions. Mr. Kozloski addressed comments received from DEP, including an aerial that shows what appears to be work done on an adjacent property and the home being closer to the property line than what was shown on the approved 2015 plan. Ms. Kerr said the footprint of what was built also appears to be different from the approved plan. Mr. Cravo explained the GIS maps are more like a guideline and are not always exact. Mr. Kozloski expressed concern about the replication area and requested soil borings be done to determine if it will be able to reach a water source. Mr. Cravo said borings can be done, and it will be monitored for two years to ensure vegetation will hold. Ms. Messick stated she is not seeing a necessity for the retaining wall, and would like the Commission to do a site visit. Mr. Kozloski requested the northern property line to be staked for the site visit.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Mr. Meagher to continue the Public Hearing for 28 Cynthia Place until the Commission's October 25, 2018 meeting.

VOTE 5-0

3. 6:30 PM – Public Hearing – Notice of Intent – River Road – Town of Agawam

Ms. Messick from the Agawam Conservation Commission and Filipe Cravo from R. Levesque Associates presented this Notice of Intent for invasive species removal in areas along the Connecticut River Walk and Bikeway on River Road. Mr. Kozloski explained that the Town received funds as a result of requiring off-site mitigation from two previous applicants. Ms.

Messick said she worked with Mr. Goddard from R. Levesque Associates to identify what species to target and which areas were most affected. The proposed work will be to target the Japanese Knotweed, located primarily near the pump station, and Oriental Bittersweet, located in between the pump station and School Street. Approximately 15 trees will be tagged and treated for Oriental Bittersweet. Ms. Messick stated there will be two treatments that could begin as early as this fall. Once the targeted areas have responded, they are proposing to seed with appropriate plantings that will create a diverse culture and prohibit the growth of the invasive species. Mr. Cravo went over the comments received from DEP. Ms. Messick stated a letter was received from NHESP giving their approval of the submitted management plan. The Engineering Department had no comments on the proposed work.

Mr. Kozloski opened the hearing to the public.

Mary Carleton, 589 River Road, commented the trees along the bike path are dying because of the Bittersweet, and asked how it is removed. Ms. Messick explained the vines will be cut approximately 2 feet from the ground, and the stumps will be treated with an herbicide. Ms. Messick said the Japanese Knotweed will be sprayed, and that there is an extensive protocol that will be followed.

No one else spoke for or against.

Motion was made by Mr. Fallon and seconded by Ms. Becker to close the public hearing on the Notice of Intent for the Connecticut Bikeway and River Walk on River Road.

VOTE 5-0

The Order of Conditions was then written. A copy can be obtained through the Clerk's office or the Conservation Commission office.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to issue the Order of Conditions for the Connecticut River Walk and Bikeway on River Road as written.

VOTE 5-0

#### 4. Request for Determination of Applicability Continued – Tennessee Gas Pipeline LLC – 261 Upgrade Projects

Deborah McCartney, Senior Permitting and Compliance Specialist with Kinder Morgan and Rebecca Weissman of SWCA were in attendance. A revised plan was submitted to the Commission that includes changes to the buffer zone that were made during the peer review process. The Commission received notification that the peer review report will be completed and available for the next meeting. A site visit was scheduled for the following week so that Commission members could walk the areas along with the Peer Reviewer, John Prenosil.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Becker to continue the RDA for Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co. LLC for the 261 Upgrade and Loop Project located between Suffield Street and Silver Street until the Commission's next meeting.

VOTE 5-0

8. Public Hearing Continued (Continued to 3/31/19) – Notice of Intent – Springfield Water & Sewer Commission – M Street & Connecticut River

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.