

Middlefield Conservation Commission

Minutes

December 7, 2016

Middlefield Town Hall

In attendance:

Kim Baker

Mitch Feldmesser

Wayne Main

Carol Waag

Mitch Feldmesser opened the meeting at 6:15.

Andrew DeVries attended our meeting. His sculpture studio on River Road burned down recently. The structure is 66 feet from the river. Mitch explained the DEP permitting process, and Mr. DeVries will submit the necessary paperwork for the anticipated reconstruction of the building.

We approved the meeting notes for September 14th and September 21st.

The MACC (Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions) has written a letter on behalf of those Massachusetts Conservation Commissions who wish to sign, urging the Governor to change his position on new interstate gas pipelines. They anticipate that the Baker Administration may propose a change in law or regulation to open the funding door for new natural gas pipelines or otherwise encourage pipeline companies to bring new interstate gas pipelines to Massachusetts. By a tally of 2-2 we voted not to sign the letter.

Eversource sent a letter outlining their 2017 yearly operational herbicide spraying, which can be seen at this address:

<https://www.eversource.com/Content/wma/about/doing-business-with-us/municipal-officials/transmission-vegetation-management>

This is a 65 page 5 year management plan for 2014-2018. It indicates that Eversource intends to spray herbicide around poles along roadways in Middlefield sometime during the coming growing season in order to treat vines. Among No Spray areas the document lists: "100 feet of any Class A Surface Water Source; 100 feet of any tributary" ...; "50 feet of any identified Private Well; 10 feet of any Wetlands; 10 feet of the mean high-water line of any rivers; 10 feet of any Certified Vernal Pool."

The next meeting will be Jan 4 at 6 pm.

Having no further business, we closed the meeting at 6:57.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Waag

