



William F. Martin
Mayor

City known as the Town of
GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town Hall • 14 Court Square • Greenfield, MA 01301
Phone 413-772-1548 ext 3 • Fax 413-772-1309
Conservation@greenfield-ma.gov • www.greenfield-ma.gov

Members:
Griffin, John (2019)
LaForme, Erika (2019)
Miller, Gail (2017)
Mosher, Timothy (2018)

GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Tuesday, December 13, 2016

**7:00 p.m. Greenfield Department of Planning and Development
114 Main Street**

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Timothy Mosher at 7:00 p.m. with the following members:

PRESENT: Timothy Mosher, Chair
John Griffin
Erika LaForme

ALSO PRESENT: Jesse Johnson, Bohler Engineering
Donald Ouellette, Greenfield DPW Director
Maureen Pollock, Assistant Planner & Conservation Agent

ABSENT: Gail Miller

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 28, 2016

MOTION: Moved by Griffin, seconded by LaForme, no further discussion and voted 3-0-0 to table the minutes from September 28, 2016.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 25, 2016

MOTION: Moved by Griffin, seconded by LaForme, no further discussion and voted 3-0-0 to accept the minutes from October 25, 2016.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from November 22, 2016

MOTION: Moved by Griffin, seconded by LaForme, no further discussion and voted 3-0-0 to accept the minutes from November 25, 2016.

Public Meetings/Hearings:

- **7:00p.m. ANRAD (DEP #168-0316) – Eastern Retail Properties, 166 South Shelburne Road:** Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation submitted by Eastern Retail Properties for property located at 166 South Shelburne Road (Assessor's Map R40, Lot 12), to determine whether the boundaries of wetland resource area(s) depicted on submitted plans is accurately delineated.



William F. Martin
Mayor

City known as the Town of
GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town Hall • 14 Court Square • Greenfield, MA 01301
Phone 413-772-1548 ext 3 • Fax 413-772-1309
Conservation@greenfield-ma.gov • www.greenfield-ma.gov

Members:

Griffin, John (2019)
LaForme, Erika (2019)
Miller, Gail (2017)
Mosher, Timothy (2018)

Jesse Johnson, representative to the Applicant was present to explain the ANRAD application. Stated the ANRAD application is a starting point for his client to identify/delineate wetlands on the property which would then help locate possible construction locations in the future. Delineated wetlands included in the ANRAD application are: Isolated Vegetated Wetlands (IVWs); Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVWs); Bank and Mean Annual High Water (MAHW) of a mapped perennial stream, known as Smead Brook. The applicant's wetland scientist, Dan Wells of Goddard Consulting LLC delineated the wetland resources between the dates of August 17-19, 2016.

Mosher stated the Conservation Commission exercised a third party review as defined under Massachusetts General Law 44 §53G requiring the applicant to pay for a wetland consultant review of the ANRAD permit request. The Commission hired Ward Smith, Professional Wetland Scientist to review the application, boundary line delineated in the field and shown on the submitted plans. Smith reviewed the boundary lines delineated at the property on November 30th and December 1st. Smith reviewed the boundary lines delineated at the property with Commission member, Erika LaForme, prospective Commission member, Rachael Lindsay, and Conservation Agent, Maureen Pollock on December 10th. During the 12/10 site walk, potential wetlands not included in the application were observed. Additionally, discretionary of wetland lines were observed. Smith marked his observations on the submitted plan. Pollock showed the Commission the markings.

Ward Smith submitted an initial report to the Commission on December 12th. Mosher read the initial report into the record.

A site walk with Dan Wells was scheduled for December 12th but had to be postponed due to the snowstorm. Smith and Wells need to reschedule the site walk when the snow melts.

Griffin stated he does not want to make a decision until after Smith and Wells conduct a site visit together and until Smith submits a finalized report to the Commission.

LaForme stated she attend the site walk on December 10th and observed the potential wetlands not included in the application and discretionary of wetland lines. Stated she wants to wait for Smith's final report. Stated she thinks the Commission should wait until spring 2017 to see conditions. Stated unless the applicant completely agrees with Smith's findings, she would like the Commission to wait until the spring.

Chair Mosher opened the public hearing

Linda Billiel, 152 South Shelburne Road

Stated she believes it is a bad time of year to delineate the wetlands, especially due to the extreme drought. Stated the Commission and applicant should not rush on this decision and that



William F. Martin
Mayor

City known as the Town of
GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town Hall • 14 Court Square • Greenfield, MA 01301
Phone 413-772-1548 ext 3 • Fax 413-772-1309
Conservation@greenfield-ma.gov • www.greenfield-ma.gov

Members:

Griffin, John (2019)
LaForme, Erika (2019)
Miller, Gail (2017)
Mosher, Timothy (2018)

that they should postpone the review and decision until spring 2017. Stated there is a lot of wildlife on this property, and would like to see that remain.

Stephen Gochinski, 116 South Shelburne Road

Inquired what is the rush? Stated this application should be postponed until spring 2017.

Earl Woodard, 156 South Shelburne Road

Stated there used to be an active slaughter house on the property. Stated the building is still there. Stated he is concerned with the animal bones that are buried.

Mosher responded any animal bones found would be a Board of Health issue not a Commission issue.

Mosher stated it is a bad time of year to delineate wetlands, due to the on-going drought; leaves are off the deciduous trees; many herbaceous plants are not visible. In addition, while hydric soil indicators are present at all times of the year, other indicators of wetland hydrology (ie, water flowing within intermittent streams and a high water table) are not present during the late fall/winter months. Stated he would like to wait until the spring to review the wetland delineations.

Griffin and LaForme each stated they would like to wait until the spring 2017 to review the wetland delineations on this property.

Johnson stated he has been working on this project since spring/summer 2016. Stated the wetlands submitted in the application were delineated in August 2016. Stated he first contacted the Commission in September 2016. Stated the Commission can determine the wetlands with plants and soils alone; indicators of hydrology are not necessary. Stated he hopes that Smith and Wells joint site walk will clear up any concerns. Stated he would like to request a continuance until January 10, 2017.

MOTION **Moved by Griffin, seconded by LaForme, and voted 4-0 to continue the public hearing (DEP # 168-0316) until January 10, 2017.**

Other Business:

- **Proposed Anaerobic Digester, 384-Rear Deerfield Street (Assessor's Map 15, Lot 1):** Don Ouellette, DPW Director to discuss a possible anaerobic digestion project at the wastewater treatment plant. Part of the facility would likely be located within the 100 year floodplain. The adjacent FRTA site would be the best site however it is likely not be available anytime soon. The transfer station could be another site to locate the digester but that would require DPW to truck it or pump the sludge to the wastewater treatment plant. By locating the digester where the



William F. Martin
Mayor

City known as the Town of
GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town Hall • 14 Court Square • Greenfield, MA 01301
Phone 413-772-1548 ext 3 • Fax 413-772-1309
Conservation@greenfield-ma.gov • www.greenfield-ma.gov

Members:

Griffin, John (2019)
LaForme, Erika (2019)
Miller, Gail (2017)
Mosher, Timothy (2018)

old digester used to be is do-able though it would be partially located within 100 year floodplain.

Mosher stated compensatory storage is required for any project that fills Bordering Land Subject to Flooding (BLSF), which includes the 100-floodplain. Any work diminishing flood storage (e.g., fill) should be offset by an equivalent volume of storage elsewhere in the same reach of the river at the same elevations. The commission may waive this requirement but should carefully review the project proposal because the extra water will have to go somewhere.

Ouellette stated the digester would provide the Town revenue upwards of \$500,000. It would produce methane electricity which would be used to run the plant. Stated the project is years in the making. Stated the Town will need to complete a feasibility study, then design the digester, and then construct it.

Commission stated that the overall project sounds like a great opportunity for the Town. The Commission would need to review and approve the project before any construction could start. Stated there is some room on the parcel to provide compensatory storage so helpfully the project would not be a problem.

Enforcement Updates/Possible Violations:

Project Monitoring:

Correspondence:

Site Visit Scheduling:

Next Meeting:

The Commission agreed to cancel the December 27, 2016. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, January 10, 2017, at the Greenfield Department of Planning and Development; 114 Main Street

Adjournment:

MOTION: Moved by Griffin, seconded by LaForme, no further discussion and voted 3-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Maureen Pollock
Assistant Planner & Conservation Agent

Timothy Mosher
Chair