

# CONSERVATION COMMISSION



Town of GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS  
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**GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of February 9, 2010**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Greenfield Police Station**  
**321 High Street**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Alex Haro with the following members:

PRESENT: Alex Haro, Chair; Tim Mosher, Vice-chair; Thomas DeHoyos; Dee Letourneau; Richard Starkey

ABSENT: None

Also present: Ralph Kunkel, Conservation Agent; members of the public.

Approval of Minutes: January 26, 2010

**MOTION: Moved by DeHoyos, seconded by Starkey, and voted 5-0 to approve the minutes of January 26, 2010 as amended.**

Other Business: APR – Martin Farm

Robert Martin, Plain Road, was present. Martin explained that he was in the process of submitting the application. Martin said his farm consisted of 90 acres, 76 acres of which are considered prime farm land.

Kunkel asked if his property was currently in Chapter 61. Martin replied that it has been in chapter 61A since 1981.

Starkey expressed his concern for the loss of farm land in the Pioneer Valley. Starkey added that he thinks this would be important farm land to have preserved.

Letourneau asked Kunkel to get the Commission more information. Kunkel said he would copy the application for the members of the Commission

Haro asked Kunkel to get copies of the ARCGIS overlay of resource areas on the Farm.

The Commission told Martin they would get back to him after the next Commission Meeting.

Public Meetings/Hearings:

7:18 p.m. Massachusetts Department of Transportation – Highway Division c/o Albert Stegemann, P.E. District 2 Highway Director for Property located along Route 2 (French King Highway) to determine whether the work depicted on the plan is subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

Robert Natario, of Mass DOT, represented the Applicant. Natario reviewed the project and presented a map which showed the project limits; the map was submitted for the record. Natario explained that all catch basins and drainage areas would be protected; that all erosion control measures necessary would be taken; and that erosion control devices would be put in place where the work is near or bordering any resource areas.

DeHoyos asked Natario if he knew the time line. Natario said that the work would begin as soon as the paper work was done and all permitting was in place; that the project was slated for 2010. Kunkel asked if the work would begin in the spring. Natario said that all responses for permitting should be received by

spring. Letourneau asked if the work would perhaps begin in June or July. Natario responded in the affirmative.

DeHoyos asked about the washed out drainage basins seen during the site visit. Natario said they would be fixed as part of routine maintenance.

Mosher and Letourneau expressed concern about how the repair to the basins would be done. Natario responded that the work would be done step by step from the road surface down to the area to be repaired. Mosher said he had seen water flowing there and asked how the applicant proposed to work around the running water. Natario replied that they would use some type of diversion technique to divert the water while the work was being done. Natario added that when the work was done would depend on knowing the weather, as it would only take a few days. Letourneau said that work within the stream would require the submission of a Notice of Intent. Natario replied that if work in the stream became necessary that maintenance could be submitted as a separate project.

Letourneau asked for the limit of the proposed work. Natario replied that the guardrail and any paved surfaces under the guardrail or slightly beyond the guardrail.

Haro said he would like to see the repair of the wash out done as an NOI. Letourneau agreed.

Haro asked what the plans were for the tree trimming. Natario replied that it was standard trimming for safety reasons

Haro said he would like to see the methodology that would be used for the maintenance work should it be done as routine maintenance. Letourneau suggested that this could be presented prior to the beginning of the work.

There was no further discussion.

**MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by DeHoyos and voted 4-1 (Haro abstained) to issue a Negative Determination that the work described in the Request is within an area subject to protection under the Act, but will not remove, fill, dredge, or alter that area. Therefore, said work does not require the filing of a Notice of Intent subject to the following conditions;**

- 1. Schedule "A" Boiler plate conditions for Determination.**
- 2. Should repair of the washed out paved drainage basins involve work within the stream, the applicant shall come back before the Commission and submit a Notice of Intent for that work.**
- 3. The applicant shall submit, prior to the start of the work, the methodology of the repair work to the washed out drainage basins and a description of the equipment to be used.**

Other Business (cont.): Haro reminded the Commission members of the MACC Annual Conference to be held February 27, 2010.

Kunkel expressed concern about the number of Emergency Certifications that have been issued in the past several years for removal and/or breaching of beaver dams along Cherry Rum Brook. The Commission asked Kunkel to have a representative of the DPW come before the Commission to discuss the situation.

Haro asked Kunkel to be more specific in the future about where Members of the Commission would meet for site visits.

Correspondence: None

Enforcements: None

Project Monitoring: None

Site Visits: None

Set Next Meeting Date: February 23, 2010, 7:00 p.m. Greenfield Police Station, 321 High Street.

Adjournment:

**MOTION: Moved by Mosher, seconded by Letourneau, and voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Ralph Kunkel  
Conservation Agent

Alex Haro  
Chair