

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town of GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
114 Main Street, Greenfield MA 01301

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GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION Minutes of September 28, 2010 7:00 p.m.

**Greenfield Police Station
321 High Street**

The meeting was called to order by Vice-chair Tim Mosher at 7:03 p.m. with the following members:

PRESENT: Tim Mosher, Vice-chair; Dee Letourneau; Tom DeHoyos (arrived 7:50 pm); Steve Walk

ABSENT: Alex Haro, Chair

Also present: Ralph Kunkel, Conservation Agent and members of the Public.

Approval of Minutes: Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 14, 2010.

At the call to order, due to the presence of only two Members who had attended the last meeting, the approval was postponed until the next meeting, October 12, 2010.

Public Meetings/Hearings: 7:00 p.m. Carlin Barton – Public Meeting to review a Request for Determination of Applicability for property located at 59 Ferrante Avenue to determine if the work depicted on the plans is subject to the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act or the Greenfield Wetlands Protection Ordinance.

Kunkel read Haro's comments of September 21, 2010 into the record.

Carlin Barton was present on her own behalf. Barton explained the procedure for removal of the trees next to the house; she said she had contacted Jeff Koshinsky who would remove the trees and John Conley who would remove the stump of the tulip tree. Mosher read into minutes a brief narrative from Jeff Koshinsky describing how the trees and stump would be removed.

Walk said he thought the trees next to the house and the stump of the tulip tree should be removed; however, the tree leaning over the bank should be left in place because it shades the stream and provides wildlife habitat, and does pose a hazard. Walk said he would be amenable to trimming it. Barton explained how other trees beside it had already fallen and that as this is already leaning in the same manner as the others, she was sure this would fall within the next year; she asked if she could remove the tree and replace the tree with a native species. Mosher said he thought the tree would cause considerable damage to the stream bank when it comes down.

Letourneau supported the suggestion of removing the tree and replacing it with a native species. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Barton asked if she could plant native species along the stream bank. Walk responded that it would depend on what she intended to plant.

A further discussion ensued of whether the birches back by the stream should be removed. The consensus was to leave the birches in place.

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by Walk and voted 4-0, to issue a negative determination that the work described in the Request is within the Buffer Zone, as defined by the regulations, but will not alter an Area subject to protection under the Act. Therefore, said work does not require the filing of a Notice of Intent subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Boiler Plate Conditions for Tree Removal**
- 2. In replacement of the trees removed a minimum of one tree for each tree removed up to a mix of 12 wetland trees/shrubs with a list to be submitted and approved when the decision to plant is made.**
- 3. The Tulip tree stump removal shall be filled with a compatible soil topped with humus and the applicant may be allowed to establish a garden, maintain the area as lawn or allow the area to revegetate naturally**
- 4. The stump of maple must be left in place to maintain the stability of the stream bank.**

7:30 p.m. Vassilios Arvanitis – Public Hearing to review a Notice of Intent for property located at 105 Mohawk Trail (Assessors Map 46 Lot 23) to add a 500 sq. ft. addition and for site improvements with portions of the work within the Buffer Zone to a Bordering Vegetated Wetland.

The Legal Notice had not been published; therefore, the Public Hearing could not be opened.

7:55 p.m. Charles Roberts – Public Meeting to review a Request for Determination of Applicability for property located Spring Terrace (Assessors Map 65 Lot 7) to determine if the work depicted on the plans is subject to the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act or the Greenfield Wetlands Protection Ordinance.

Charles Roberts was present on his behalf. Roberts reviewed the project. Roberts said that he hoped to be able to bring the truck beside the house where it would be driven into the 25 foot No Disturb Zone.

Kunkel reviewed the site visit and reiterated Haro’s remarks. Kunkel asked Roberts if he intended to mow the lower section of the property. Roberts replied that he would have it “brush-hogged”.

DeHoyos asked if the Commission should invoke the Waiver due to the proposal to drive the truck into the No Disturb Zone. A discussion ensued.

Mosher asked for a written plan for the removal of the tree. The consensus of the rest of the Commission was that the meeting should be continued to allow Roberts to get the written plan.

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by DeHoyos and voted 4-0, to continue the Public Meeting for Charles Roberts to October 12, 2010, 7:00 pm.

Other Business: Pat Serrentino addressed the Commission regarding a potential grant from Northeast Utilities for invasive species removal. Serrentino said that if she were to apply for the grant, the emphasis would be removal of Garlic Mustard from along the trails in Highland Park. Serrentino stated the plan was to recruit people in the Spring to remove by pulling up the plant along the trails in Highland Park; with the intent to control it before it gets into the forest. Serrentino said the primary cost would be gloves and bags for disposal.

Leyden Woods – Change in Approved Plans in the Order of Conditions issued for DEP File Number 168-0271.

Rachana Crowley was present on behalf of The Community Builders, Inc. Kunkel read into the minutes Haro’s comments of 9/21. Mosher said he was not satisfied with the plans during the site visit, as they had no scale; that he would like to see full size plans. A discussion ensued of the DEP Guidelines and whether the project merits an Amended Order of

Conditions. The consensus of the Commission was to have Frank Holmes return with a full set of plans and to schedule another site visit with reflagging to indicate the 25 ft NDZ to verify that the changes are less of an impact. In all three areas, Walk ask for marking and staking of the corners of the building adjacent to the resource areas. Crowley was asked to come back on October 12, 2010 with Frank Holmes and a written brief of the overall improvements to show if there was less impact.

Scott B. and Dee Letourneau – Request for Extension of Order of Conditions –
DEP File #168-0224 issued September 14, 2004, 1st extension October 2007

Letourneau recused herself and briefly reviewed the history of the project.

MOTION: Moved by Walk, seconded by DeHoyos, and voted 3-0 to extend the Order of Conditions for DEP File #168-0224 for 3 years.

Monitoring: No one from the Highland Park Bike Races was present for the Seasonal Review therefore Kunkel was asked to reschedule the review for October 12, 2010.

Kunkel said that Kelly Kippenberger had submitted photos of the set up during and the area after the borings had been done at the tower on Leyden Road by the National Grid.

Correspondence: Kunkel reminded the Commission of the Green River Clean-up to be held Saturday, October 2, 2010 beginning at 7:00 a.m.
Kunkel also reminded the Commission of the Fall Conference to be Saturday November 6, 2010 at the Clarion Hotel & Conference Center, Northampton

Enforcement Updates: Kunkel said he had gone out to Jim Ewer's property to ensure that Ewer had pulled limbs and cuttings out of the ravine.

Site Visits: Leyden Woods, 5:00 October 12, 2010.
Mackin site for Fall site visit to the Wetland # 4 Restoration, Tuesday October 5, 2010, 11:00 am

Next Meeting: October 12, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. Greenfield Planning Department, 114 Main Street.

Adjournment: **MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by DeHoyos, and voted 4-0 to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Ralph Kunkel
Conservation Agent

Tim Mosher
Co-Chair