

# **CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

*Town of GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS*  
*14 Court Square, Greenfield MA 01301*

413-772-1551  
413-772-1309 (fax)



**GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of Tuesday June 25, 2013**  
**7:00 p.m. Greenfield Department of Planning and Development**  
**114 Main Street**

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

**PRESENT:** Alex Haro, Chair  
Dee Letourneau  
John Blasiak  
Thomas DeHoyos  
Angela Panaccione, Agent

**ABSENT:** Timothy Mosher, Vice-Chair

Approval of Minutes: Approval of Meeting Minutes from June 11, 2013.

**MOTION:** Moved by Blasiak, seconded by DeHoyos, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to accept the minutes from June 11, 2013, as corrected.

Public Meetings/Hearings:

**7:05 PM - Alex Haro Opened the Request to Amend an NOI Hearing (DEP # 168-0281): 11-17 Meridian Street; Northrop Grumman**

Amendment to a Notice of Intent submitted by Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation, for property located at the Former Swarf Disposal Area, 11-17 Meridian Street (Map 19, Parcel 47A), for limited soil excavation and additional investigation work to delineate the depth and horizontal extent of subsurface light non-aqueous phase liquid (LNAPL).

Nathan Jones, of CDM Smith, attended tonight's meeting as representative to Northrop Grumman, to present the proposed amendments to the previously filed and approved NOI (DEP # 168-0281). The project consists of LNAPL remediation at the former Greenfield Tap & Die plant. An Order of Conditions was issued in 2011 for geo-probing and remediation work. The applicant is requesting to amend the current Order of Conditions to allow more investigatory work to be completed. The applicant proposes to install an additional 40 1" diameter geo-probes, in a previously disturbed and mowed area of the Riverfront. The applicant will then send light into the ground, causing the oils and gases still present on site to light up. This will help the applicant further determine the location and extent of LNAPL remediation required. No land clearing, excavation, mowing or tree removal is anticipated. If a tree is required to be removed, the applicant will contact the commission for permission. There will be no additional impacts to resource areas other than those defined in the original 2011 Notice of Intent. The work is expected to begin in July, and take approximately three (3) days, maximum, to complete.

**MOTION: Moved by DeHoyos, seconded by Letourneau, no further discussion and voted 3-0-1 (Blasiak abstained) to close the public hearing and issue an Amended Order of Conditions for DEP # 168-0281**

**7:30 PM - Alex Haro Re-Opened Continued NOI Hearing (DEP # 168-0294) 142 Mohawk Trail; ExxonMobil**

The Notice of Intent submitted by Synergy Environmental, Inc. c/o David Hrinak representing Lehigh Gas Corporation, is for the ExxonMobil Station property located at 142 Mohawk Trail (Assessors Map 35 Lot 15), for the proposed work pertaining to the installation of a retaining wall constructed of gabion baskets (opposed to the previously proposed sheet pile wall).

Several site visits have been conducted in the past few months and the above referenced NOI is in response to Commission's concerns with the site. Chris Horan, of Synergy Environmental, Inc., attended the meeting to present the project. He provided the commission with the new NOI and the specific specs of the new Gabion Wall installation. The project will alter up to 75-linear feet of bank, but will provide more stabilization than the previously proposed Sheet Metal Pile wall. The Gabion wall will also decrease stream flow velocity and will be more aesthetically pleasing. Ten (10) Cedar trees will be removed from the site and not replaced. The curb will also be removed and reset after the new fence is installed. The fence will be located between the proposed gabion walls and the new rest curb. Horan did not provide any plans for the opposite side of the bank, stating it was not their property and not their concern. Several Commissioners believed the erosion occurring on the other side should not be ignored, and should be addressed. The work is anticipated to begin in August.

The DEP file number, with comments, has been received. DEP commented that primarily this project proposes a discharge of dredged or fill material into "Waters of the United States" potentially subject to the federal Clean Water Act. Per the Massachusetts General Permit (MAGP) issued under the federal Clean Water Act, and the Applicant may be required to notify the US Army Corps of Engineers, New England District of this project proposal, using "Appendix C", as found within the MAGP. Other concerns pertained to the Riverfront Redevelopment standards and the project exceeding the threshold for Bank alteration provided in 310 CMR 10.54.

Given DEP's comments and concerns, the Commission requested the following actions of the Applicant before the hearing can be closed and the Order of Conditions issued:

1. The applicant will provide the relevant information to the Commission and DEP in regards to the 401 WQC requested in the DEP comments
2. The applicant will provide a detailed narrative explaining how the projects meets the performance standards identified in the Wetlands Protection Act (WPA) 310 CMR 10.54, specifically for bank, including how exceeding the current performance standards will not negatively affect the interests protected by the WPA, including wildlife habitat per 310 CMR 10.60.
3. Given the project proposes 375 square feet of alterations in the first 100-feet of the Riverfront Area, the applicant will provide a narrative detailing compliance with Riverfront Redevelopment standards at 310 CMR 10.58 (5) (a) – (e) or (f), (g) should also be submitted. If the applicant cannot comply with (a) – (e) restoration/mitigation plans should be submitted in compliance with 310 CMR 10.58 (5) (f) or (g).

**MOTION: Moved by Blasiak, seconded by DeHoyos, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to continue the hearing until 7:15 PM on Tuesday July 9, 2013**

## Enforcement Updates:

**80 Homestead Ave:** On Thursday June 6, 2013, the Agent was notified of equipment working within wetlands, and tree removal occurring within the BVW and the 25-foot no disturb zone. The Agent conducted a site visit and noted equipment parked directly within the BVW. A notice of a possible wetlands violation was issued. On Tuesday June 11, 2013, the Commission was notified all work has stopped and the equipment has been removed from site. The Agent, Haro and Blasiak conducted a site visit on Thursday 6/13/13 at 4 PM with the residents. It was evident a large tree had been dropped directly into a Bordering Vegetative Wetland (BVW) and an Intermittent stream. Additionally, piles of sand/chips/debris were dumped into the BVW, thereby diverting the natural flow of the stream and redirecting it closer to the property in question. The equipment (mini-excavator) was gone from the site, but track were evident in the resource areas. Definite damage to vegetation and soil disturbances were evident. The Commissioners asked the resident to hand remove the debris from the stream, and allow the stream to regain its natural course. Haro will conduct a follow up site inspection himself next week, to ensure the debris pile is removed.

## Other Business:

**GTD Maintenance:** The commission discussed what needed to be completed at GTD this coming summer and fall. It included:

1. New Kiosk: The kiosk present is old and in rough shape. Haro will investigate this further
2. New map: The current map in the kiosk is faded and hard to read. The goal would be to replace the map, and include all different trails in all different colors. Notice of keeping dogs leashed should also be highlighted due to recent complaint of unleashed unruly dogs.
3. Updated/Modified brochure: The current brochure should be updated with the new map created with color-coded trails. Haro will contact Lincoln Fish about this
4. Inspect brush hogging from last fall and schedule an additional mowing
5. Commemorative bench for Bill Griswold

Haro and Blasiak will walk the trails in the next few weeks and discuss what needs to be done further at the next Con Com meeting.

**Lenny Weeks:** Haro received a call from Lenny Weeks this week informing him and the commission his dam repair has not performed as expected. After the new attempt at repair, there was still leakage through the membrane and the pond did not hold water. Weeks plan is to re-expose the concrete core of the dam (removal of new riprap by hand), then install simple forms (plywood sheets & 2x4s) and pour concrete to "sandwich" the core with new concrete. There will be a maximum of 1-2 cubic yards of concrete added and approximately 6-10 linear feet of the center of the dam will get sandwiched. This will all be done by hand via wheelbarrows transporting concrete from the road and no heavy equipment will be used. The riprap and membrane would then be replaced by hand over the core to the original footprint and work should be completed within 2 days.

Haro informed the commission he was reluctant to okay this without Weeks coming before the board, but as Weeks has had the pond drained for some time for the repair, Haro felt it was important to get the repair done and the pond refilled as soon as possible. Haro informed the Commission that he made an executive decision to allow Weeks to proceed in the interest of completing the project. Haro also informed Weeks that if he needs to do any additional work, or if this plan does not work as well, Weeks would need to come before the Commission and file a new Notice of Intent.

Blasiak raised concerns with Haro exceeding his authority to make such a decision without consulting the Commission. Blasiak was concerned problems could arise because the project was not properly permitted and exceed what is current allowed in the open Order of Conditions. Blasiak stated he would have instructed Weeks to fill the pond to the maximum extent possible, then come before the commission to discuss alternatives for repairing the dam.

Site Visit Schedule:

Next Meeting:

**7 PM on Tuesday, July 9, 2013:** Greenfield Department of Planning and Development; 114 Main Street.

Adjournment:

**MOTION: Moved by Blasiak, seconded by Letourneau, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Panaccione  
Conservation Commission Agent

Alex Haro  
Chair