



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)  
Lindsay, Rachel (2017)  
Miller, Gail (2017)  
Mosher, Timothy (2018)

**GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of Tuesday, April 11, 2017**  
**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  
Gail Miller  
Erika LaForme  
Rachel Lindsay

**ALSO PRESENT:** Maureen Pollock, Assistant Planner & Conservation Agent

**ABSENT:** John Griffin

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 28, 2017. The minutes have not been drafted yet.

**MOTION:** Moved by Miller, seconded by LaForme, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to table the minutes from March 28, 2017 until the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Public Meetings/Hearings:

Other Business:

- **DPW: Glen Brook Reservoir Dredging Project** – Mosher drafted a memo on behalf of the Commission. The Commission reviewed the memo to be addressed to the Town Council and provided minor edits. The memo reads as follows:

“On March 28, 2017, the Con Comm was approached by the Town Engineer, Nicolas Reitzell III, PE, regarding a proposed project to dredge the Glen Brook Reservoir (hereafter referred to as “the reservoir”) in Leyden, MA. The reservoir supplies approximately 1/3 of the public drinking water for the city of Greenfield.

Under the current Operations and Maintenance (O&M) schedule, the reservoir is to be drained every 15 years for the purpose of silt/sedimentation removal. Once drained, the material is removed by using a machine, such as a bulldozer, to accumulate the material onto the banks of



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the reservoir for further removal (if silt/sedimentation is not removed from within the reservoir the cost and the difficulty of the water purification increases). Once drained and cleared, the estimated recharge time for the reservoir is approximately four (4) months. During this period there would be no usable water in the reservoir for drinking or for firefighting purposes and all usable water would come from other city water resources.

Mr. Reitzell proposed that the Town alter the process of silt/sedimentation removal by using a crane with a “clamshell” to partially dredge (est. 3,000 cubic yards) the reservoir annually. Dredged materials would be allowed to dewater in a constructed basin adjacent to the reservoir. He stated that this process would be less invasive to the waterway and surrounding area; would be more cost effective; and would eliminate or reduce the recharge time.

The Con Comm expressed concerns regarding the effectiveness of the process stating that any gap in the material removed may refill with more material before the next phase of annual maintenance. Mr. Reitzell agreed that there is a potential for that to occur. Mr. Reitzell stated that the entire plan would be sent to Fuss & O’Neil, a civil and environmental engineering consulting firm in April 2017 for further engineering review, and specifications. After which time, the Con Comm requested an update.

It is the opinion of the Con Comm that while there is potential for the location of the removed material to fill back in, it would be in the best interests of the Town to attempt the proposed removal since it would be less invasive to the watershed and possibly more cost effective as well.

Should the attempt fail, going back to the original O&M plan should be considered in the future.

The Con Comm looks forward to review future plans for comments as it further develops.”

**MOTION: Moved by Lindsay, seconded by LaForme, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to draft a memo for the Town Council.**

Enforcement Updates/Possible Violations:

Project Monitoring:

Correspondence:

- **Draft Priority Habitat Map of Rare Species Available for Public Comment, April 3-June 3, 2017**

In accordance with the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act, M.G.L. c. 131A , (MESA) and its implementing regulations (321 CMR 10.00), beginning on **April 3, 2017**, the Division



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of Fisheries & Wildlife will commence a sixty (60) day comment period for the public to review and submit comments on the proposed updated version of the Priority Habitat map.

*Specifically, the Division is requesting public comment on the status of areas proposed for delineation or removal as Priority Habitat regarding the physical or biological features of the habitat, or the current scope of existing development in the area.*

How to review and provide comments on the DRAFT Priority Habitat Map:

The Open Comment Period is **April 3, 2017 - June 3, 2017**.

The Natural Heritage [DRAFT Priority Habitat Map Viewer and Public Comment Form](#) is a mapping service available to the public which allows a point to be associated with a comment. This map allows the user to zoom into a location using the zoom tool or by entering a street address. The user can then map a point and enter a comment which will be sent to the Natural Heritage Program for consideration.

Comments may also be submitted via email (to [natural.heritage@state.ma.us](mailto:natural.heritage@state.ma.us)) or in writing to:  
Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program  
Attn: DRAFT Priority Habitat Map Comment  
1 Rabbit Hill Road  
Westborough, MA 01581

#### **Updated Priority Habitats reflect:**

- any changes to the MESA species list,
- the latest species observation occurrences,
- an improved understanding of species biology and habitat requirements.

These revisions also allow for the removal of existing development and poor quality sites, and the utilization of improved mapping tools such as more recent aerial photography and revised Geographic Information System (GIS) layers.

For more information, see: [How and Why the MESA Priority Habitat Map Changes](#)   
and [Regulatory Maps: Priority & Estimated Habitats](#)

#### Site Visit Scheduling:

- 52 River Street (Assessor's Map 32, Lot 2B) – Commission members will meet individually at the site
- Millbrook Well, 195 Mill Brook Road (Assessor's Map R11, Lot 84) – Meet on-site on April 25,



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- 2017 at 5:00pm
- 36 Log Plain Road (Assessor's Map R17, Lot 6) – Meet on-site on April 20, 2017 at 5:00pm

Next Meeting:

7:00 PM on Tuesday, April 25, 2017, at the Greenfield Department of Planning and Development; 114 Main Street.

Adjournment:

**MOTION: Moved by Lindsay, seconded by LaForme, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Maureen Pollock  
Assistant Planner & Conservation Agent

Timothy Mosher  
Chair