



William F. Martin  
Mayor

City of  
**GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

City Hall • 14 Court Square • Greenfield, MA 01301  
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John Griffin, Chair  
Rachel Lindsay, Vice Chair  
Erika LaForme

Agent: Sarah Fortune

**GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019**  
**Greenfield Department of Planning and Development**  
**20 Sanderson Street, Greenfield MA 01301**

The meeting was called to order by John Griffin at 6:09 PM with the following members:

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** John Griffin, Chair  
Rachel Lindsay, Vice Chair  
Erika LaForme

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Kris Pitney, Pacifico Energy NA; 50 Milk Street, Boston, MA 02118  
Jeffrey Marques, GCC; 1 College Drive, Greenfield, MA 01301  
Peter Glick, Symmes, Maini & McKee; 275 Promenade Street, Providence, RI  
Kris Warner; 115 Verde Drive, Greenfield, MA 01301  
Maria Firstenberg, TRC; 650 Suffolk Street, Lowell, MA  
Laura Lafebvre, TRC; 650 Suffolk Street, Lowell, MA  
Colleen Puzas, SWCA; 15 Research Drive, Amherst, MA

**6:09 PM Administrative Matters: Approval of Meeting Minutes from 3/26/19, 4/9/19 & 4/25/19**

**Motion made by Erika LaForme to table the approval of meeting minutes from March 26, 2019 until June 11, 2019**  
**Motion seconded by Rachel Lindsay**  
**No further discussion – 3-0-0 – Motion Carries**

**Motion made by Rachel Lindsay to approve the meeting minutes from April 9, 2019 as amended**  
**Motion seconded by Erika LaForme**  
**No further discussion – 3-0-0 – Motion Carries**

**Motion made by Rachel Lindsay to approve the meeting minutes from April 25, 2019 as amended**  
**Motion seconded by John Griffin**  
**No further discussion – 2-0-1 – Motion Carries (Erika LaForme abstained)**

**6:09 PM Administrative Matters: Approval of Documents – Certificates of Compliance, DEP # 168-0324 & 0326 at 99 & 115 Verde Drive; single family home construction**

**Motion made by Erika LaForme to issue a complete Certificate of Compliance for DEP # 168-0324 for single family home construction at 99 Verde Drive**  
**Motion seconded by Rachel Lindsay**  
**No further discussion – 3-0-0 – Motion Carries**

**Motion made by Erika LaForme to issue a complete Certificate of Compliance for DEP # 168-0326 for single family home construction at 115 Verde Drive**  
**Motion seconded by Rachel Lindsay**



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Agent: Sarah Fortune

**No further discussion – 3-0-0 – Motion Carries**

**6:15 PM Request for Determination (RDA) – GCC; 1 College Drive (Map R37-3A) – parking lot improvements**

The Commission reviewed a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) submitted by Symmes, Maini & McKee Associates c/o Peter Glick for the property located at 1 College Drive (Assessor’s Map R37-3A) to determine whether the work to reconstruct two existing parking areas, adjoining walkways and a stormwater management system is subject to the MA Wetlands Protection Act and the Town of Greenfield Wetlands Protection Ordinance. All disturbance associated with the proposed project is located within the 100-foot Buffer Zone and 25-foot No Disturb Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands.

John Griffin opened the public meeting and Peter Glick and Jeffrey Marques were in attendance to present the project with the GCC, stating that the goal is to bring a portion of the parking area at GCC into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) while also improving stormwater management. There are two (2) preexisting catch basins that discharge through a point-source to wetlands on site at wetland flags C20 and C21 while a third catch basin discharges through a point source to wetlands at flags C5 and C6. Although there are three (3) preexisting catch basins on site, some stormwater continues to sheet flow over the access drive directly to wetlands without entering the stormwater management system. Improvements to the stormwater management system include the installation of water quality treatment units, deep sump catch basins, and the construction of a curb along the repaved access drive to direct stormwater to the improvement stormwater management system. The proposed water quality unit and deep sump catch basins are located within the 25-foot No Disturb Zone (NDZ) regulated under the Greenfield Wetlands Protection Ordinance (GWPO), but the NDZ is previously disturbed and the proposed stormwater management system has been designed to meet the Stormwater Standards and remove 80-percent of total suspended solids (TSS). Re-grading and repaving the parking area to meet ADA standards will result in a reduction in impervious surface by approximately 300 square-feet on the site. Erosion-sediment controls consist of a compost filter sock and silt fence along the limit of work, silt sock installation within preexisting catch basins, and the installation of a temporary construction entrance. Eight (8) shade trees are proposed to be planted along the improved walkways and a native New England seed mix will be used to stabilize all disturbed soils adjacent to wetlands.

The Agent reported that she had not performed an inspection to the site for the purpose of issuing a Determination of Applicability. The GCC proceeded to schedule a site visit on May 30, 2019 at 5:30 PM.

John Griffin opened the meeting for public comment and no member of the public wished to comment on the proposed project.

The Applicant requested a continuance of the public meeting until June 6, 2019.

**Motion made by Rachel Lindsay to continue the public meeting for the Request for Determination of Applicability for parking lot improvements at Greenfield Community College until June 6, 2019**

**Motion seconded by Erika LaForme**

**No further discussion – 3-0-0– Motion Carries**

**6:15 PM Cont. NOI: DEP # 168-0329 – 1417 Bernardston Road (Map R10-9) – solar array construction**

The Commission will continue to review a Notice of Intent (NOI) permit application submitted by TRC Environmental Corporation c/o Kris Pitney of Pacifico Energy NA for the construction of a .75 megawatt direct current solar array on the property located at 1417 Bernardston Road (Assessor’s Map R10-9) in Greenfield. There is 115,958 square feet of permanent disturbance proposed in the Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVW) and 958 square feet of permanent disturbance proposed in the 25-foot No Disturb Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVW) on the project site.



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Agent: Sarah Fortune

John Griffin re-opened the public hearing and Representative Maria Firstenberg, Applicant Kris Pitney and Outside Consultant Colleen Puzas were present. Maria Firstenberg presented an alternatives analysis requested by the GCC to reduce the encroachment into the No Disturb Zone and 100-foot Buffer Zone on the project site. Maria reported that a new area of solar arrays has been added to the project due to the GCC's requirement to remove all project disturbance to the 50-foot Buffer Zone from BVW, and understands that it have to be reviewed by the outside consultant. Alternative 1 moves the access road farther from the BVW and protects native berry producing plants in that area. Alternative 2 moves the access road and maintains a 50-foot NDZ throughout the entire project site except for a small portion of the access road. Alternative 3 accomplishes the same as alternative 2 but also includes proposed mitigation through wildlife habitat creation.

After a great deal of discussion regarding the proposed alternatives analysis, the GCC decided that Alternative 3 most accomplishes the requirements to reduce buffer zone impacts and remove all work from the inner 50-foot buffer zone to BVW.

Maria informed the GCC that mitigation for disturbance in the buffer zone will include invasive species management, installation of native trees and shrubs, and wildlife habitat creation.

Maria requested a continuance of the public hearing until June 11, 2019 in order to make revisions to the site plans based on the GCC's decision to use Alternative 3 for the final project design.

**Motion made by Rachel Lindsay to continue the public hearing for DEP # 168-0329 for solar array construction at 1417 Bernardston Road until June 11, 2019**

**Motion seconded by Erika LaForme**

**No further discussion – 3-0-0– Motion Carries**

**8:50 PM Administrative Matters: Review Correspondence (Mail & Phone Messages)**

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➤ **UMass Amherst: Updated Cost of Community Service analysis**

The GCC received a letter from UMass Amherst informing them that there is an updated Cost of Community Service analysis available for review.

**8:50 PM Administrative Matters: Chair, Agent & Member Reports**

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➤ **MACC fern workshop on 6/9/19 from 1-5 PM in Greenfield**

The GCC will be hosting a fern identification workshop organized by the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC) on Sunday, June 9, 2019 from 1 to 5 PM.

➤ **River Corridor discussion with Kimberly MacPhee of FRCOG on 6/25/19**

Kimberly MacPhee of The Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) has requested to attend the June 25, 2019 GCC meeting to present analysis of a river corridor overlay.

➤ **Doug Cloutier – Resignation**

Doug Cloutier submitted his resignation letter from the GCC on Tuesday, May 28, 2019.

➤ **2019 Reappointments – John Griffin and Erika LaForme**

John Griffin's and Erika LaForme's terms of appointment end on June 30, 2019 and must seek reappointment if they wish to continue serving on the GCC.

**8:53 PM Other Projects, Monitoring, Enforcements & Violations**

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➤ **Project updates: DEP # 168-0332 – 57 Forgey Way (Assessor's Map R05-28M) – slope failure mitigation**



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The Agent performed the pre-activity meeting on May 9, 2019 and approved the start of work.

➤ **Project updates: DEP # 168-0330 – 562 Leyden Road (Assessor's Map R20-3) – exploratory soil borings**

The Agent performed the pre-activity meeting on May 21, 2019 and approved the start of work.

➤ **Project updates: DEP # 168-0328 – Adams Road (ROW) – guardrails**

The Agent performed the pre-activity meeting on May 9, 2019 and approved the start of work.

➤ **Violation updates: 301 Country Club Road (Assessor's Map R15-8) – tree removal in wetlands**

The Agent reported that the restoration work is now complete at 301 Country Club Road.

➤ **Violation updates: Highland Park wetland mitigation and restoration**

The Agent reported that all required plantings have been installed at Highland Park. Monitoring and reporting of the mitigation area will occur in August of 2019.

➤ **Mass Audubon/DCR – Foresters For the Birds study at Griswold/GTD Conservation Area**

Mass Audubon and DCR contacted the GCC to request the opportunity to conduct an ornithological study at the Griswold/GTD Conservation Area to determine if recent timber harvesting activities geared toward creating bird habitat was effective. The results of the study will be shared with the GCC upon completion.

**Set Next Meeting Date:** Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 6:00 PM in the Greenfield Department of Planning and Development, located at 20 Sanderson Street, Second Floor Conference Room in Greenfield.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:56 PM**

**Motion made by Erika LaForme to adjourn at 8:56 PM**

**Motion seconded by Rachel Lindsay**

**No further discussion – 3-0-0 – Motion Carries**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sarah A. Fortune  
Conservation Agent

John Griffin,  
Chair