GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, September 24, 2019
Greenfield Department of Planning and Development
20 Sanderson Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Greenfield MA 01301

The meeting was called to order by John Griffin at 6:02 PM with the following members:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:  None

ALSO PRESENT:  Michael Murphy, 496 Leyden Road, Greenfield, MA 01301
                Sara Campbell, PE, 8 Maple Avenue, Erving, MA 01344
                Travis Drury; 74 High Street, Apt 1, Greenfield, MA 01301


Motion made by Rachel Lindsay to approve the meeting minutes from May 28, 2019
Motion seconded by John Griffin
No further discussion – 3-0-1 (Fletcher Harrington abstained) – Motion Carries

Motion made by Rachel Lindsay to approve the meeting minutes from June 25, 2019 as amended
Motion seconded by John Griffin
No further discussion – 3-0-1 (Fletcher Harrington abstained) – Motion Carries

Motion made by Rachel Lindsay to approve the meeting minutes from August 13, 2019 as amended
Motion seconded by John Griffin
No further discussion – 3-0-1 (Fletcher Harrington abstained) – Motion Carries

Motion made by Erika LaForme to approve the meeting minutes from September 10, 2019
Motion seconded by Fletcher Harrington
No further discussion – 4-0-0 – Motion Carries

6:15 PM  Request for Determination (RDA): 496 Leyden Road (Parcel R30-1) – Replace existing culvert

The Commission will review a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) submitted by Michael Murphy for the property located at 496 Leyden Road in Greenfield (Assessor’s Map R30, Lot 1) to determine whether the work to replace an existing culvert 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 with the 100-foot Buffer Zone and 25-foot No Disturb Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands.
John Griffin opened the public meeting and Sara Campbell, PE was in attendance to present the project, reporting that the work involves replacing an existing culvert. The Commission discussed the project and ways to reduce the slope and angle of repose. Rachel Lindsay suggested the use of geotextiles to stabilize the bank. Fletcher Harrington suggested the use of plantings to stabilize the bank. The Commission and Applicant discussed strategies to ensure that the drainage flows to the upstream/flat side of the driveway. The Commission and Applicant also discussed strategies to ensure that the setbacks are respected. The Commission discussed seeding for the project. Rachel Lindsay recommended a seed mix good for highway use. The Commission discussed the use of conservation seed mix which is a mix of grasses and wildflowers. The Commission wanted something with better roots and annuals. Rachel Lindsay and Fletcher Harrington suggested additional seed mixes.

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

The Commission agreed on the following conditions of approval:

- The Applicant shall notify the Commission before construction and shall hold a pre-construction meeting with its Agent to verify erosion controls for the Project;
- The Applicant shall block the culvert with hay bales, sandbags or something similar during construction to limit flow;
- The Applicant shall replace the existing pipe with the same diameter and length pipe (18” diameter);
- The slope shall be no more than 1:1 upon completion of the Project;
- The slope shall be stabilized with erosion control matting/netting;
- The slope shall be seeded with an appropriate seed mix;
- The Applicant shall notify the Commission of the choice of seed mix;
- Stockpiles must be >25 feet from the top of bank;
- A straw waddle shall be placed around all stockpiles left overnight;
- All equipment must be cleaned and free of invasive species;
- All fill must be clean of invasive species;
- Introduced invasive species discovered after completion of the work shall be removed; and
- Drainage shall be directed to the upstream/south side of the drive.

Motion made by Rachel Lindsay to close the public meeting for the Request for Determination of Applicability submitted by Michael Murphy for 496 Leyden Road

Motion seconded by Erika LaForme

No further discussion – 3-0-1 (John Griffin abstained) – Motion Carries

Motion made by Rachel Lindsay to issue a Negative Determination, Box 3 stating 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 pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act, subject to Special Conditions

Motion seconded by Erika LaForme

No further discussion – 3-0-1 (John Griffin abstained) – Motion Carries
Motion made by Rachel Lindsay to issue a Negative Determination, Box 6 stating that the work described in the Request is not subject to review and approval pursuant to the Greenfield Wetlands Protection Ordinance, Chapter 195
Motion seconded by Erika LaForme to
No further discussion – 3-0-1 (John Griffin abstained) – Motion Carries

7:05 PM  Enforcement Updates & Other Business

➢ Enforcement updates

No enforcement updates. Rachel Lindsay suggested that the Commission get a more comprehensive list of outstanding enforcement actions.

➢ Discuss meeting with Lincoln Fish at the GTD Conservation Area

The Commission discussed weekdays at 5:00 p.m. or Saturday. Lincoln Fish suggested the following dates and times:
- Wednesday, October 9th at 5:00 p.m.
- Friday, October 11th at 4:00 p.m.
- Saturday, October 12th at 10:00 a.m.

➢ Discuss draft fee schedule

No updates to the draft fee schedule at this time.

7:20 PM  Other Business

➢ Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Updates

Rachel Lindsay updated the Commission on the status of the update to the City of Greenfield’s local multi-hazard mitigation plan. The Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee reviewed and updated the action plan items. She stated that Chapter 195 needs to be included in the plan update. Any revisions made to Chapter 195 need to be forwarded to the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee for inclusion in the plan update.

➢ Chapter 195 Revisions

The Commission discussed potential revisions to Chapter 195. There is a typo in Section 195-3(B). Erika LaForme suggested that they stress that the 25’ No Disturb Zone does not replace the 100’ buffer zone. The Commission discussed clarifying the 200’ vs. the 100’ buffer zones for intermittent streams. The revisions should include stating specific ability for the Commission to expand the No Disturb Zone. The Commission discussed the use of the Green River Corridor Mapping Project vs. the 100-year special flood hazard area. John Griffin will communicate any other updates to Rachel Lindsay.

➢ Sachem’s Head Platform

Rachel Lindsay pointed out that the Sachem’s Head platform has a rotten board and questioned if the Commission could use its budget to pay for repairs. She suggested contacting either the Recreation Department or the Department of Public Works. John Griffin will inquire with Eric Twarog about this.

7:32 PM  Project Monitoring & Site Visit Scheduling
DEP # 168- 0333: 121 Thayer Road Ext. – drainage improvements

No update.

Schedule site visit for Request for Extension: DEP # 168-0289 – Stoneleigh-Burnham School; 574 Bernardston Road

A site visit to inspect for permit compliance prior to the issuance of an extension of the Order of Conditions issued for the work has not yet been scheduled.

Set Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2019

The next GCC meeting will occur on Tuesday, October 8, 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 8:48 PM
Motion made by John Griffin to adjourn at 7:37 PM
Motion seconded by Rachel Lindsay
No further discussion – 4-0-0 – Motion Carries

Respectfully Submitted,
Eric Twarog
Acting Conservation Agent

John Griffin, Chair