

CONSERVATION COMMISSION



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

413-772-1548
413-772-1309 (fax)

GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of April 28, 2009

7:00 p.m.

Greenfield Police Station
321 High Street

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. with the following members:

PRESENT: Alex Haro, Chair; Tom DeHoyos; Dee Letourneau

ABSENT: Tim Mosher, Vice-chair

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

Approval of Minutes:

Kunkel stated that the Minutes for April 14, 2009 were not yet ready for approval. Haro said they would be submitted for approval at the next meeting.

Public Meetings/Hearings:

7:02 Camp Kee-Wa-Nee – to review a Request for Determination of Applicability for property located at Assessors Map R31 Lot 2 to determine whether the work depicted on the plans is subject to jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act or the Greenfield Wetlands Protection Ordinance. Continued from April 14, 2009.

Ron Wood, Chairman of the Board and Chris Sexton, Board President were present on behalf of the applicant. Wood said he had met with Tony Wonseski from SVE. Wood read a letter from Wonseski dated April 28, 2009, stating that the height of the land on which the building would be constructed was out of the flood plain. Wood also submitted maps from SVE. The land had been surveyed and all elevations were depicted.

Letourneau asked for clarification of the height of the building.

Haro asked if elevations were based on FEMA map. Wood responded that the elevations were a result of a resurvey of the land by SVE.

A discussion ensued as to whether the foundation would be in the flood plain. It was decided that while the foundation technically would be in the flood plain elevation there would be embankment from the elevated land between the flood plain and the foundation.

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by DeHoyos, and voted 3-0 to issue a negative determination, that the work described is within the buffer zone of the bank of an intermittent stream, 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:

Silt Fence shall be installed as indicated on the plan.

Boiler Plate conditions as they apply

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by DeHoyos, and voted 3-0 that due to the revised plans the work described is not subject to the Greenfield Wetlands Protection Ordinance Chapter 195.

Other Business:

Becky George of the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce was present to ask for permission to use Wedgewood Gardens for over-flow parking during the Green River Festival in July. George said they would like to use Wedgewood Gardens because of its proximity to the college for the shuttle and for walking. George said they would take out liability insurance for any damage that occurs due to parking. There would probably be 50 or fewer cars, George added.

Haro said he would be in favor of allowing parking only on the paved surfaces. Haro added that the concern of the Commission would be any potential leakage from cars, and that he would rather see it go onto the pavement than the grass. Haro said one concern for not allowing it at all would be that due to the storm drains on the paved areas, the pollutants could go directly into the river. Haro suggested that George look at the paved areas and determine if that would be adequate, and whether they could limit parking to the paved area..

George said she would be willing to do that but was concerned that the paved area would not be enough.

Letourneau said the Commission's primary concern was the area within the 200 ft river front. Haro asked George to see if they could find area upland of the 200 foot river front and if they would display that area on a map. Haro also asked George to submit a plan outlining how they would take care of trash.

George said she would be at the meeting scheduled for May 26, 2009.

Elise Schlaikjer, 528 Leyden Road, was present to request the removal of trees within a resource area. Schlaikjer said she had contacted Bill Lattrell regarding some other work she wanted to do on her property. Haro advised her to come before the commission with her delineation at a later meeting and to simply address the removal of the trees at this meeting. Haro reviewed the site visit which he and Letourneau had attended and said that the trees Schlaikjer wanted to remove were old and would not last very long. Letourneau concurred with Haro.

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by DeHoyos, and voted 3-0 to allow Elise Schlaikjer of 528 Leyden Road to remove from her property at 528 Leyden Road, five Weeping Willow Trees (*Salix babylonica*) located consecutively from Leyden Road along the driveway running westerly from Leyden Road; one Norway Maple Tree (*Acer plantanoides*); Oriental Bittersweet Vine (*Celastrus orbiculatus*) as indicated on the plan; and Multiflora Rose (*Rosa multiflora*) as indicated on the plan. Permission to remove the above species is contingent on the following conditions:

- 1. Prior to removal of the trees, contact the Conservation Agent with the methodology of how the trees will be removed.**
- 2. No heavy equipment shall be allowed in the resource area.**
- 3. Upon completion all debris shall be removed from the resource area.**
- 4. Vegetation removed shall be replaced according to the planting plan submitted to the Commission.**
- 5. Areas where Bittersweet and Multiflora rose have been removed shall be allowed to revegetate naturally.**

Kunkel said that Eric Twarog, senior planner had given him a proposed amendment to the Greenfield Wetlands Protection Ordinance regarding concurrent hearings of the three boards to expedite permitting. There ensued a brief discussion regarding Chapter 43D. Kunkel said the Town Council wanted a vote as to whether they should act on amending the City Ordinance at their next meeting or act on it at a later date.

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by DeHoyos, and voted 3-0 to ask the Council to act at a later date after the Commission has had an opportunity to submit a recommendation for alternate wording for an amendment to Chapter 195 regarding Expedited Permitting according to Chapter 43D.

Haro asked Kunkel about the proposed Biomass Energy Plant on Butternut Street. Kunkel said there were no jurisdictional areas. Haro told the Commission that while there were not any jurisdictional areas, he had

concerns about a proposed road around the large area called Isolated Land Subject to Flooding. Haro said he would draft a letter and address the following points:

- Was that road really needed
- If needed could the road be rerouted.

Letourneau asked about Wedgewood Gardens stating that she had seen Silt fence and some debris at the site. Kunkel was asked to contact Sandy Shields to find out what had been done since the snow has melted.

Project Monitoring: None

Enforcement Updates: None

Correspondence: None

Site Visit Schedule: See if Adesta would schedule a site visit for the Intelligent Transportation System on Saturday May 1 or May 8, 2009.

Set Next Meeting Date: May 12, 2009, 7:00 p.m. Greenfield Police Station

Adjournment:

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by DeHoyos and voted 3-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m. 3-0 8:37

Respectfully Submitted,

Ralph Kunkel
Conservation Agent

Alex Haro
Chair