

CONSERVATION COMMISSION



Town of GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
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GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of March 9, 2010

7:00 p.m.

Greenfield Police Station
321 High Street

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. with the following members:

PRESENT: Alex Haro, Chair; Tim Mosher, Vice-chair; Tom DeHoyos; Dee Letourneau; Richard Starkey

ABSENT: None

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

Approval of Minutes: Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 9, 2010.

MOTION: Moved by Mosher, seconded by Letourneau, and voted 5-0 to accept the minutes of February 9, 2010 as submitted.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 23, 2010.

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by Starkey, and voted 3-0 (Mosher and DeHoyos abstained) to accept the minutes of February 23, 2010 as submitted.

Public Meetings/Hearings: None

Other Business: Emergency Certifications for breaching of beaver dams along Cherry Rum Brook. Alan Twarog, Assistant Engineer, represented the Greenfield DPW. Haro reviewed previous discussions regarding the high number of Emergency Certifications (ECs) for breaching of beaver dams along Cherry Rum Brook. Haro asked Twarog why the DPW believed a beaver deceiver would not be adequate. Twarog said there are sewer mains adjacent to and within the flood plain of the brook; that due to the age and condition of much of the sewer line, standing water would infiltrate the system and DPW is under orders from the State to minimize the infiltration to the sewer system. DeHoyos, referring to the ECs, asked where the locations were. Twarog said they were behind Silver Crest and next to Cherry Rum Plaza. Twarog further explained how standing water infiltrates the system. Twarog added that the DPW has plans to line the system from French King Highway to Bernardston Road. Starkey said he thinks lining the pipe is an adequate solution. Haro asked if there were any plans for the pipe behind the Silver Crest area. Twarog said the DPW has plans to seal the man hole covers there when funding allows; and at that point a beaver deceiver would not be a problem. Haro asked that the DPW look into that as a solution. Twarog reiterated that funding was the issue. DeHoyos asked if DPW would notify the Franklin Land Trust when the pipes were lined. Twarog replied that they would.

11 Spring Terrace – request for a change in the type of foundation. Chuck Roberts was present on his own behalf. Roberts said that after his engineer had done borings for soil tests, the results showed that the soil was not suitable for a normal foundation with the type of frost walls the Commission had approved; that his engineer suggested helical screw foundations, with beams attached to the screws and atop the beam a frost wall would be built; this would leave a crawl space which would need to have a perimeter drain. Roberts presented a plan and photos to show where he was proposing to put in a perimeter drain and where it would open to the bottom of the berm in the back. Roberts said he had spoken to Bill Lattrell who had told him he would not be adding any water to the water table but diverting water that was already there. Letourneau asked if he would use a perforated pipe. Roberts

said that it would be except where it opens into the yard at the base of the berm; that the pipe would need to be encased in filter fabric and surrounded by crushed rock. Haro asked Roberts why he had not considered opening the pipe into the swale adjacent to the property. Roberts replied that he thought opening to the back would be less invasive as the swale had wetland plants in it. DeHoyos asked Roberts if he could use horizontal directional boring to install the pipe. Roberts said he would look into it.

Letourneau asked Kunkel to find out what Roberts' options would be for work with the pipe in the 25 foot No Disturb Zone. Letourneau asked Kunkel to find out how use of the Waiver would tie into the existing Order of Conditions. Letourneau asked Roberts to come forward with a plan for how the work would be done. The Commission agreed that Roberts would be on the Agenda for March 23, 2010.

APR – Martin Farm.

MOTION: Moved by DeHoyos, seconded by Letourneau, and voted 4-1 (Mosher opposed) to endorse the APR application on the Martin Farm.

Review of the Greenfield Wetlands Protections Ordinance – The Commission continued its review of the first part of the Ordinance Chapter 195-1. Purpose; applicability of statutes. The Commission also began discussion of Chapter 195-2. Jurisdiction.

Correspondence: None

Enforcement Orders: None

Site Visits: None

Next Meeting: Greenfield Police Station Meeting Room, March 23, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment:

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by Mosher, and voted 5–0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ralph Kunkel
Conservation Agent

Alex Haro
Chair