

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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

413-772-1551
413-772-1309 (fax)



GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes of September 27, 2011
7:00 p.m. Greenfield Planning Department
114 Main Street

The meeting was called to order by chair, Alex Haro at 7:02 p.m. with the following members:

PRESENT: Alex Haro, Chair
Tim Mosher, Vice-chair
Tom DeHoyos
Dee Letourneau
Steve Walk

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Laura DiNardo, Conservation Agent and members of the Public.

Approval of Minutes: Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 9, 2011 and August 23, 2011.

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by Mosher, and voted 4-0, with one (1) abstention to approve the minutes from August 8, 2011.

Haro corrected two typos on page two of the August 23, 2011 minutes.

MOTION: Moved by Walk, seconded by Mosher, and voted 3-0, with two (2) abstentions to approve the minutes from August 23, 2011 with Haro's corrections.

Public Meetings/Hearings:

7:15 p.m. McDonald's USA LLC – Public Hearing to review a Request for Determination of Applicability for property located at 208 Mohawk Trail (Map 37, Lot 6A), for proposed restaurant improvements within the 200-foot river front area to Wheeler Brook.

Matt Smith, the Senior Project Manager representing McDonalds, introduced himself and the project. The proposed work consists of renovations to the existing building including upgrades to the exterior façade and construction of a new front patio area. The drive-thru will be upgraded to side-by-side ordering stations (double drive-thru). The existing utilities and storm management system will remain and is functioning optimally.

The portion of the work being done within the Conservation Commission's jurisdiction consists of re-pavement and the creation of a grass island. The impervious surface will be reduced (from 3000 sq.ft. to 2600 sq.ft.).

Walk suggested an upgrade to a pervious surface.

Smith stated that in a high traffic area, such as this will be, with a high turnover, a pervious surface would not be ideal.

Mosher stated that with traffic constantly turning on the pavement in this area a pervious surface would easily degrade.

Mosher asked is this project is subject to the Massachusetts Stormwater Standards.

Walk asked if DEP would be submitting comments for this project.

DiNardo verified that since DEP does not issue file numbers for Request for Determination of Applicability's they do not submit comments.

Letourneau expressed concern about whether or not an RDA submittal was appropriate for this project.

DiNardo verified that DEP was contacted regarding the project and they were on board with the applicant submitting an RDA.

DeHoyos expressed concern about the resource area (Smead Brook) behind the building.

Smith verified that the area is depicted on the map and the work is outside that area.

Mosher stated that he is okay with the project since the building was built prior to 1996 and since there is a 13% improvement of pervious surface.

Letourneau expressed concern that the submittal of an RDA over an NOI; limits the Commission's oversight on the project.

Smith stated he had done a submittal like this in the past and is willing to work with a conditional RDA and compromise with the Commission.

Walk expressed concern with this project in relation to the performance standards for work in a Riverfront Area; wants to feel comfortable approving this project under a RDA. The Commission needs to treat this project like any other in the Riverfront, regardless of whether property is commercial or residential.

DiNardo asked about the erosion control methods.

Smith verified that erosion controls are mapped in the plans and will be placed around existing catch basins where all run-off is directed.

Letourneau asked when the work is likely to begin. Smith stated hopefully by December.

Haro asked if they were planning on doing plantings to new section or grass only.

Smith stated that they usually do grass, especially because the area is so small for the creation of wildlife habitat. The area is very remote from the brook.

Walk expressed concern about other applicants and Riverfront Standards; need a paper trail.

Haro asked Walk if he would rather see them submit a Notice of Intent or if a RDA would work under conditions that applicant submit a narrative with calculations.

Smith stated he could send an alternative analysis, sign and stamped by engineer if requested by Commission.

MOTION: Moved by Walk, seconded by Letourneau, and voted 5-0, to make a negative determination that the work described in the Request is within an area subject to protection under the Act, but will not remove, fill, dredge, or alter that area. Therefore, said work does not require the filing of a Notice of Intent and is subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Standard Boiler Plate Conditions apply.**

2. A narrative should be submitted by the applicant, or it's representative, along with an Alternative Analysis with calculations signed and stamped by an engineer, verifying that this work can be done within the Riverfront Area.
3. Filter fabric should be placed over catch basin during construction.
4. A pre-construction site visit should take place between the applicant and the Commission, or it's Agent.

MOTION: Moved by Walk, seconded by Letourneau, and voted 5-0, to make a negative determination that the area and/or work described in the Request is not subject to review and approval by the Greenfield Wetlands Protection Ordinance (Chapter 195).

Other Business:

Correspondence:

DiNardo confirmed a site visit with the Commission on Tuesday, October 4, 2011 with Amy Ball of Horsley Witten Group at the former Mackin property. DiNardo will send confirmation/reminder email to Commission and Anthony Wonseski, SVE Associates.

DiNardo notified the Commission that John Root emailed the Commission regarding a powerpoint presentation/event that he would like the Commission to host. The Commission suggested John Root find another venue; the Commissions role in this event does not seem appropriate.

DiNardo will follow-up/update John Root.

DiNardo showed the Commission pictures from a site visit on September 12, 2011 with the Berkshire Gas Company/Ish Inc. regarding test pits approved at the August 23rd Commission meeting.

DiNardo showed the Commission pictures from a pre-construction site visit with Kittredge Industries regarding the septic construction approved at the August 9th Commission meeting.

DiNardo notified the Commission of the Emergency Notifications received from the DPW per the DEP's Hurricane Irene Procedures. DiNardo presented pictures and described work to be done. Hurricane Irene Emergency Procedures are no longer in effect as of September 27, 2011.

1. Green River, Greenfield/Leyden – Coffey Dam
2. Removal and salvage of the covered bridge on Eunice Williams Drive at the Green River Pumping Station.
 - a. Letourneau expressed concern about where the grant money for the bridge will be going. DiNardo will follow-up/update the Commission.
3. Bank Restoration at the Green River Pumping Station on Eunice Williams Drive.
4. Repair of Maple Brook Sewer Interceptor running behind properties of Solon Street.

DiNardo mention Mark Snow's inquiry regarding the Green River Cemetery and possible restoration from the mudslide.

The Commission verified that the site is out of the Commission's jurisdiction. They were involved in the general clean-up and approval for the removal of mud/debris. This land is not owned by the Town of Greenfield but by the Green River Cemetery and the work would be up to them. Walk verified that this is part of a natural process, more interference could potentially cause more problems.

DiNardo will follow-up/update Mark Snow, Building Inspector.

The Commission mentioned the Millbrook Well Field site visit regard the delineation to be discussed at next hearing.

DiNardo updated the Commission on the Ish Inc./Berkshire Gas Company Pre-NOI meeting in Springfield, MA DEP Regional Office.

Monitoring:

Enforcement Updates:

DiNardo notified the Commission that Michael J Winn, Fire Chief, emailed the Commission regarding the David Kalinowski enforcement. He will be using an excavator on the Conway Drive property to move the wood chip pile away from the residence adjacent.

Commission expressed concern that the pile is getting bigger and has been smoking.

Letourneau was contacted by Becky George, resident, looking for an update on enforcement and Commission's involvement.

Haro was in contact with the DEP, who is working on the situation and will continue to contact the Commission accordingly. Haro took pictures of the mulch pile 3-ft under water during the Hurricane Irene flooding.

DiNardo will follow-up/update Becky George regarding enforcement.

Walk expressed concern regarding 488 Bernardston Road (Cherry Rum gas station); he did not see the erosion control barriers.

DeHoyos verified that the silt fence is now up at the construction site.

Walk expressed concern about the work being done across from the Home Depot/Big Y, they received the Commission's approval about 2 years ago; concerned they are working outside of their limit of work.

DeHoyos felt that Ralph Kunkel had worked out all construction details with the applicant. DiNardo will follow-up/update the Commission and the applicant regarding work.

Mosher expressed concern about the DOT lighting work being done at the rotary which was approved by the Commission 2 years ago; concerned they are working outside of their limit of work. DiNardo will follow-up/update the Commission and the applicant.

Site Visits: Tuesday, October 4, 2011 @ 11AM with Amy Ball (Horsley Witten Group) at the former Mackin property

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 11, 2011 @ 7 PM, 114 Main Street, Planning Department Meeting Room.

Adjournment:

MOTION: Moved by DeHoyos, seconded by Walk, and voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura DiNardo
Conservation Agent

Alex Haro
Chair