

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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

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GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes of December 13, 2011
7:00 p.m. Greenfield Planning Department
114 Main Street

The meeting was called to order by chair, Alex Haro at 7:04 p.m. with the following members:

- PRESENT:** Alex Haro, Chair
Dee Letourneau
Thomas DeHoyos
Timothy Mosher
- ABSENT:** Steve Walk
- ALSO PRESENT:** Laura DiNardo, Conservation Agent and members of the Public.

Approval of Minutes: Approval of Meeting Minutes from November 8, 2011 and November 22, 2011.

Letourneau was absent from the November 8, 2011 meeting. DeHoyos and Mosher were absent from the November 22, 2011 meeting.

MOTION: Moved by DeHoyos, seconded by Mosher, and voted 3-0, with one (1) abstention to approve the minutes from November 8, 2011.

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by DeHoyos, and voted 4-0 to table the approval of the November 22, 2011 minutes until next meeting.

Public Meetings/Hearings:

Other Business:

Meryl Mandell, Mass DOT – Continued discussion regarding the ITS Project at the I91 Rotary.

Meryl Mandell, Mass DOT/ITS Project Manager.

Haro opened the discussion with a brief history of the ITS I91 rotary project and a description of the letter that was recently sent regarding the required submission of a planting plan.

Mandell presented two copies of the planting plan to the Commission. The plan consists of twelve (12) shrubs: 6 winterberry (male and female) and 6 red osier dogwood. These species were chosen because they are native, easy to maintain, attractive, and a good height.

Mandell informed the Commission that the wildflowers planted in the rotary will be mowed twice a year and the shrubs will be planted early spring. The shrubs might need to be pruned once they reach mature height (around 8-10 feet).

Haro expressed concern about the size of the shrubs when planted, will they be noticeable enough to not be cut during maintenance. Mandell stated that the DOT workers would be made aware. Haro suggested marking the shrubs until they become larger.

Mandell stated that DOT will be willing to move certain shrubs or put them in different locations but the plan is to plant twelve shrubs. The Commission stated that they are happy with the plan as presented. Mandell gave the Commission a brief update on the ITS project.

Town of Greenfield Wetland Protection Ordinance (Chapter 195) – Continued discussion and review.

Haro explained where the process was left and where it should continue from here. He handed out a spreadsheet with specific sections for each individual to review. DiNardo will take over Ralph's duties.

Mosher stated that the "Purpose" section was complete.

DeHoyos stated that the "Jurisdiction" section should be in the Conservation files. DiNardo will print colored copies of this updated section for the Commission prior to the next hearing.

Haro stated that the wording in "Exemptions and Exceptions" section needed revision; 'Bylaw' should be replaced with 'Ordinance'.

DiNardo will continue with the "Applications and Fees" section. DiNardo will print colored copies of the updated section for the Commission prior to the next hearing.

Mosher will be prepared to discuss "Coordination with other boards" at next meeting and Letourneau will possibly discuss the "Notice and Hearings" section.

Commission verified that the current Ordinance is from 2001 with two amendments in 2008 (Waivers and Appeals). Town Counsel was requesting an update of the review process; Haro gave an estimate of spring 2012.

Correspondence:

DiNardo Presented pictures of the Wayland Pines site visit (Lot 3); erosion controls are now in place and building permit to start foundation has been signed.

Mosher asked who the contractor was for the project.

Mosher explained the silt-fence installation process. Fence should be buried 6 inches into the ground. Soil should not be lifted to the 6-inch mark; fence should be dug down. Fencing should be tight. Mosher expressed concern about the use of hay or straw bales. DiNardo stated the plan was for silt fence only.

DiNardo stated that 145 Gill Road (the former Mackin site) has requested a Certificate of Compliance. Commission discussed site visit and placing applicant on next agenda. DiNardo will ask Tony Wonseski to meet Commission for site visit.

Haro explained to the Commission that the Open Space and Recreation Plan was in the process of being updated. The Commission will be involved setting specific goals and updating certain sections. DiNardo will be able to bring specific discussion topics/questions to the next meeting.

Monitoring:

Enforcement Updates:

Site Visits: December 19, 2011 @ 7:30AM – 145 Gill Road RE Request for Certificate of Compliance

Next Meeting: December 27, 2011 @ 7:00PM – Department of Planning and Development Meeting Room

Adjournment:

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by Mosher, and voted 3-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura DiNardo
Conservation Agent

Alex Haro
Chair