

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town of GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
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GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes of January 10, 2012
7:00 p.m. Greenfield Planning Department
114 Main Street

The meeting was called to order by chair, Alex Haro at 7:00p.m. with the following members:

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

Approval of Minutes: Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 13, 2011 and December 27, 2011.

Walk was absent from the December 13, 2011 meeting, Mosher and DeHoyos were absent from the December 27, 2011 meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Mosher, seconded by Letourneau, and voted 3-0 approve the minutes from December 13, 2011

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by Mosher, and voted 3-0 to table the approval of the December 27, 2011 minutes until next meeting.

Public Meetings/Hearings:

Other Business:

- a. Sara Campbell, DPW, discussion regarding the sewer line replacement in the Green River.

Sara Campbell, Town of Greenfield – Department of Public Works, Town Engineer.

Engineer working on the project is AECOM. Sewer line needs to be replaced due to Hurricane Irene storm damage. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) issued the Town an Emergency Permit under Hurricane Irene emergency procedures. Work was not completed during the allotted timeframe and DEP extended the Emergency work to allow completion. Campbell presented plans to the Commission and explained that the work was being conducted near the Route 2A bridge between Mr. Kalinowski's property and the Enterprise car rental. Campbell is assuming, but it will be finalized by the professional engineer who receives the project, that a coffer dam will be used to block one side of the river and then the other to allow time to fix.

Commission expressed concern about alternatives and preventing storm damage in the future. Campbell stated that the pipe will be dug deeper and be built in a way that prevents future damage. Material will not degrade or rust and new manholes are being used to ensure the pipe is deeper than before. Currently, there is a temporary pipe that run on top of the Route 2A bridge. The reason they install the pipe underground to cross the river and the reason they are digging the pipe deeper is for maintenance reasons, this is the best and

most practical way to fix the pipe. Campbell and the DPW will continue to work with DEP during the installation process. The Commission expressed concern about them waiting too long to complete project, might create problems with Natural Heritage.

Campbell explained an upcoming project to create a rotary near the Greenfield Community College. Wetlands were delineated during the summer. Campbell is concerned that the wetland flags will not hold up over the upcoming months. The Commission stated they would be willing to look at the delineation and the area prior to them submitting an application. Project manager will probably come before commission during the summer of 2012. DiNardo will be in touch with DPW regarding a site visit.

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

Mosher updated the Commission with his section, ‘Coordination with other Boards’. He hasn’t drafted anything at this time but presented examples from other towns. Letourneau expressed concern with the present permit process and the lack of communication between departments. DiNardo explained the current process. Seven (7) copies are required by each applicant. Five (5) copies are sent to each Commissioner, one (1) copy is filed in the Planning Department, and (1) copy is filed in the Planning Department for other town departments to review or possibly pick up. The Commission discussed the idea of requiring applicants to submit applicant to other departments (Zoning Board, Agricultural Commission, Building Department, Planning Board, Health, Assessors, etc.). The Commission is concerned about the amount of paper that would be used. The Commission discussed scanning the documents and dispersing them to the other departments but this would be the applicants responsibility not the Agents. The Commission agreed that an email should be sent to all or any relevant department notifying them that an application was received and letting them know it was available for review or they were welcome to come to the hearing. Agenda is always posted 72 hours (business) before a meeting. Mosher will use this discussion to draft the section and bring to the next meeting.

Letourneau updated the Commission on the ‘Regulations’ section. She briefly looked at other Ordinance/Bylaws and the MACC model. Letourneau will continue to look into the section and what would be best for Greenfield’s Ordinance and DiNardo will research information to send to Letourneau before next meeting.

Haro went over everyone’s duties regarding the Ordinance; he will speak with Walk about his section and DeHoyos’ section can wait until next meeting.

c. Town of Greenfield Open Space and Recreation Plan update – discussion and input.

Next Open Space meeting is January 23, 2012; Haro will be attending. Discussion can wait until after the next Open Space Meeting. Haro asked the Commission’s opinion on dog waste bags and receptacles at Highland Park. DiNardo stated that it was mentioned at the last Open Space meeting; DPW is concerned about the work force needed to collect trash at the park and about the possibility of illegal dumping. Discussion will continue at the next meeting.

Correspondence:

DiNardo notified the Commission that a Request of Determination of Applicability (RDA) was submitted for work at 85 Shelburne. Applicant was completing necessary steps to receive FEMA money after their house was condemned because of storm damage caused by Hurricane Irene. DiNardo spoke with DEP, if they choose to build on existing footprint (which will not change the amount of impervious surface) they should file an RDA, if they chose to expand they should file a NOI. DiNardo will conduct a site visit with the Commission and the applicant prior to the next meeting (8AM on

either Friday, 1/20, or Monday, 1/23).

Haro updated the Commission of the repair of the Green River Dam. They have an updated set of plans and Haro has been in contact with Tighe&Bond regarding the bank stabilization methods. Tighe&Bond has suggested willow stems to enforce rip-rap. Commission would ideally like to see j-veins and root wads. Haro will let Tighe&Bond know about the Commissions concerns. DiNardo suggests that DEP be contacted with their concerns also; they are permitting the work they might be able to set stricter conditions on bank stabilizing methods.

Haro updated the Commission of work being done on Silvio O Conte Drive (FW Webb). They have invited him to do a site walk. He will possibly look at the site tomorrow (1/11/12) and will call DiNardo to possibly join.

Monitoring:

Enforcement Updates:

Site Visits: TBA – DiNardo will set up meeting for 85 Shelburne Road.
Griswold/GTD site walk – week ending January 20, 2012
Possibly coordinate with Sara Campbell/DPW regarding delineation at proposed rotary
Possible site visit to Silvio O Conte Drive, Haro is in contact with applicant and will contact agent.

Next Meeting: January 24, 2012 @ 7:00PM – Department of Planning and Development Meeting Room

Adjournment:

MOTION: Moved by Mosher, seconded by Letourneau, and voted 3-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura DiNardo
Conservation Agent

Alex Haro
Chair