



City known as the Town of
GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town Hall • 14 Court Square • Greenfield, MA 01301
Phone 413-772-1549 • Fax 413-772-1309
Conservation@greenfield-ma.gov • www.greenfield-ma.gov

William F. Martin
Mayor

Members:

Blasiak, John (2016)
DeHoyos, Thomas (2016)
Haro, Alex (2015)
Letourneau, Dee (2014)
Mosher, Timothy (2015)

GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Tuesday September 10, 2013

**7:00 p.m. Greenfield Department of Planning and Development
114 Main Street**

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

PRESENT: Alex Haro, Chair
Timothy Mosher, Vice-Chair
Dee Letourneau
John Blasiak
Tom DeHoyos
Maureen Pollock, Agent

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Worgaftik, Greening Gateway Sculpture Committee Chair
Felix Lufkin, Help Yourself!, Inc.
Sara Campbell, DPW
Tony Wonseski, SVE Associates
Audley Robinson
Dale Putnam
Scott Morsey
Frank Wheeler

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 27, 2013.

MOTION: Moved by Blasiak, seconded by Letourneau, no further discussion and voted 4-0-1 (DeHoyos abstained) to accept the minutes from August 27, 2013, as amended.

Public Meetings/Hearings:

7:05 PM RDA – 270 Deerfield Street, ‘Brookie’ Sculpture Park: Request for the Determination of Applicability submitted by the Town of Greenfield c/o Eric Twarog representing the Town of Greenfield’s Department of Planning and Development, for the ‘Brookie’ Sculpture Park, located at 270 Deerfield Street (Map 19, Parcel 44), to determine whether the work proposed for the installation of an art sculpture, informational sign, 1-2 benches, and planting of native plant species within the riverfront area (Green River) is subject to the MA Wetlands Protection Act and the Town of Greenfield Wetlands Protection Ordinance.

Haro, Letourneau, Blasiak, and Pollock, conducted a site visit of the property on August 30, 2013. There were no project representatives present during the site visit, but Commissioners were able to inspect the project site and the submitted plan. At the public meeting, Wonseski and Lufkin were present to explain



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the proposed project. The proposed plan includes planting of native trees, shrubs, and groundcover throughout the proposed sculpture park. The native plants will provide increased native biodiversity and forage for songbirds and wildlife, throughout all the seasons. The plants will be donated from local nurseries. The sculpture is designed by John Sendelbach of Shelburne Falls. To install the sculpture, a 3 foot hole will be dug, per brownfield regulations. The base of sculpture is 200 pounds and will be anchored with 17 cu feet/2500 pounds of concrete below grade. It will be backfilled with 15 foot diameter area around the sculpture to 12 inches higher than existing grade, to give the footing 48 inches depth below ground. The sculpture frame is made of stainless steel with stainless welds. There will be two benches and three educational signs installed around the park. The town owns the property. DPW will continue mowing the property, and a volunteer group will provide annual maintenance. The chain link fence will be the limit of work for the park design. Wonseski and Lufkin request to remove the invasive plant, bittersweet along the fence. The elm tree toward the northern end of the site is a safety hazard due to its included bark, which will split in the coming years. If the tree warden warrants the elm as a safety hazard, the commission permits the tree to be removed.

- MOTION:** Moved by Blasiak, seconded by DeHoyos, no further discussion and voted 5-0-0 to close the public hearing.
- MOTION:** Moved by Blasiak, seconded by DeHoyos, no further discussion and voted 5-0-0 to make a negative determination, box 2, that 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; box 5, that the planting of native trees, shrubs, and groundcover is exempt as a minor activity per 310 CMR 10.02(2)(b)1.d.

7:15 PM RDA – Shelburne Road right of way: Request for the Determination of Applicability submitted by the Town of Greenfield c/o Sara Campbell representing the Town of Greenfield's Department of Public Works, for the Shelburne Road right of way located east of the 83 Shelburne Road property, to determine whether the work proposed for the removal of the existing bituminous surface sidewalk and placement of soil to meet existing grade within the riverfront area (Green River) is subject to the MA Wetlands Protection Act and the Town of Greenfield Wetlands Protection Ordinance.

Blasiak and Pollock conducted a site visit of the right of way in mention on September 9, 2013. Sara Campbell (DPW) attended the meeting to explain the proposed project. Roadside erosion has progressed after flooding events caused by Tropical Storm Irene, August 2009. It appears that the guard rail was hit by a vehicle. Rather than replacing the sidewalk, when one exists on the opposite side of the street, DPW proposes to remove the sidewalk and curb and restore the bank. The commission expressed concerns regarding the removal of the curb. Removal of the curb would allow stormwater to runoff into the Green River instead of allowing the curb to deflect the stormwater towards the existing drainage culverts on either end of the project area. Additionally, the guard rail post that was hit by a vehicle appears to have slid down, and appears it will continue to slide down due to the lack of soil that would otherwise support the post. If the curb is removed, runoff will further erode this area and cause the post to slide more. The plan needs to address how runoff will deflect the flow from the erosion channel.

The Commission requests Campbell to revise the plan with a construction plan, which includes proposed



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grading and plantings.

Campbell requested a continuance to the next regularly scheduled meeting so she can revise the project plan.

MOTION: Moved by Blasiak, seconded by DeHoyos, no further discussion and voted 5-0-0 to continue the hearing until Tuesday, September 24, 2013 at 7:00PM

7:30 PM Cont. NOI (DEP # 168-0289) - Stoneleigh-Burnham School: Notice of Intent submitted by SVE Associates c/o Leslie Brown representing the Stoneleigh-Burnham School, for property located at 574 Bernardston Road (Map R15, Parcel 2), for work pertaining to a stream maintenance dredging operation, equestrian improvements, pond maintenance, new fore bay construction and a new outside arena.

Tony Wonseski, representative for the applicant was present to update the Commission about the 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) status. Per request of Mark Stinson, DEP, the public hearing would remain open until the project received the 401 WQC. As of September 4, 2013, DEP granted the 401 WQC for the project in mention. Wonseski requests the Commission to close the public hearing and issue the Order of Conditions with conditions and additional 401 WQC conditions provided by DEP. DEP requested the applicant to remove all dredged materials to an upland licensed facility for disposal. The applicant originally planned to reuse some of the dredged material in the channel of the forebay area, but will now need to bring in topsoil. Wetland mix will be spread on the topsoil.

The applicant intends to apply for a Category 2 permit, which allows work in a wetland during the winter. Steve Johnson, a scientist who performed a pond assessment for the project site, recommends the pond be temporarily lowered prior to construction so the amphibians and turtles will not be disrupted during the winter construction period. The pond would be lowered to the level that will be maintained during the entire construction period. Wonseski will submit Johnson's recommendations to Pollock for file.

The dredging operation banks have already been flagged. The banks will be vegetated after construction is completed. As a wetland enhancement measure, Wonseski plans to remove the elevated pipe going into the wetland upstream.

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by Blasiak, no further discussion and voted 4-0-1 (DeHoyos abstained) to close the public hearing.

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by Blasiak, no further discussion and voted 4-0-1 (DeHoyos abstained) to approve the NOI as submitted and issue an Order of Conditions with conditions.

Other Business:



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Request for COC (DEP # 168-200) – 448 Mohawk Trail; Audley Robinson: A request for a Certificate of Compliance (COC) was submitted to the commission by Audley Robinson, for property located at 448 Mohawk Trail (Assessors Map R37 Lot 11), for work pertaining to the replacement of a failed septic system. A site visit occurred with Conservation Agent Maureen Pollock on September 4, 2013. Pollock stated the area looks good and the site is permanently stable. Pollock supplied the Commission several photographs of the completed portion of the site. Robinson attended the meeting to discuss the project with the commissioners and submitted an as built plan to the Commission.

MOTION: Moved by Letourneau, seconded by DeHoyos, no further discussion and voted 4-0-1 (Blasiak Abstained) to issue the COC for 448 Mohawk Trail (DEP # 168-200).

Griswold/GTD Conservation Area

Pollock will contact a local landscaper to mow overgrown portions of the stewardship trail and remove some blown down trees along the trail.

Haro is ready to order the commemorative bench in honor of Lyman W. “Bill” Griswold. Haro would like to put an inscription on the bench, and requests Commissioners to think of thoughtful verbiage for the inscription. Haro contacted the Franklin County Technical School about building the kiosk. Haro will give the school a cost estimate of the materials needed for construction.

Right of First Refusal (Chapter 61 B) – Golf Course: Update

Pollock met with Mayor Martin and Art Baker, DPW Director on September 6, 2013 about the town’s purchasing options for the property. The town has right of first refusal if someone makes an offer on the property, but if the property goes to a foreclosure auction, the right of first refusal is eliminated, and the town can only bid. Pollock spoke with Jay Rasku from Mount Grace Land Trust and Sam Lovejoy from MA Department of Fish and Game about possible funding sources.

Chapter 195: Wetlands Protection Ordinance: Waiver

Haro will present information on the draft Wetlands Ordinance revisions to the Town Council during their Town Council Meeting scheduled for September 18, 2013.

Project Monitoring:

None

Enforcement Updates/Possible Violations:



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261 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne Falls Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses (DEP #168-0270): Pollock conducted a site visit of the ongoing construction project site on September 9, 2013. Pollock observed work outside the limit of work, with vegetation removed, and the soil bare. Additionally, Pollock observed sections of the sedimentation barriers not being maintained. Pollock supplied the Commission several photographs of the possible violations. Dale Putnam, Scott Morsey, and Frank Wheeler attended the meeting to discuss the possible violations. The commissioners agreed the disturbed area outside the limit of work needs to be restored to its original state, and the sedimentation barriers need to be maintained. Putnam agreed to repair the sedimentation barriers and to spread conservation mix and straw over the bare soil outside the limit of work by the end of the week. A site visit will be scheduled for the following week to assess the damage.

Correspondence:

None

Site Visit Scheduling:

1. **261 Mohawk** – Meet September 16, 2013 at 4:30PM on site

Next Meeting:

7 PM on Tuesday, September 24, 2013, at the Greenfield Department of Planning and Development; 114 Main Street

Adjournment:

MOTION: Moved by Blasiak, seconded by Mosher, no further discussion and voted 5-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Pollock
Conservation Agent

Alex Haro
Chair