



William F. Martin
Mayor

City known as the Town of
GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town Hall • 14 Court Square • Greenfield, MA 01301
Phone 413-772-1548 ext 3103 • Fax 413-772-1309
Conservation@greenfield-ma.gov • www.greenfield-ma.gov

Members:

Blasiak, John (2016)
DeHoyos, Thomas (2016)
Miller, Gail (2017)
Mosher, Timothy (2018)
Nevins, Matthias (2017)

GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Tuesday July 28, 2015

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

The meeting was called to order by Chair, John Blasiak at 7:00 p.m. with the following members:

PRESENT: John Blasiak, Chair
Thomas DeHoyos
Gail Miller

ALSO PRESENT: Jean Conway
Maureen Pollock, Assistant Planner & Conservation Agent

ABSENT: Timothy Mosher
Matthias Nevins

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 14, 2015.

MOTION: Moved by Miller, seconded by DeHoyos, no further discussion and voted 3-0-0 to accept the minutes from July 14, 2015, as amended.

Public Meetings/Hearings:

Other Business:

- **GTD/Griswold Conservation Area Trail Maintenance:** The Commission discussed maintenance needs for this property. According to the property deed, the Commission is required to maintain 2 fences along the southern boundary of the property. Pollock is trying to reach out to the Griswold Family to seek more information about the fencing. The Commission discussed discontinuing the southern access point, as there are no safe areas to park. The Commission also discussed whether to continue maintaining a section of the stewardship trail that is not on town property. Blasiak mowed part of stewardship trail closest to the parking area. Pollock is getting cost estimates to replace the existing entrance kiosk and can order new trail markers. Pollock suggested continuing the discussion until the full Board is present.



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- **Green River Conservation Land - Trail Maintenance:** Blasiak pruned back the overgrown vegetation along existing trails adjacent to the Swim Area. Blasiak will continue pruning the trails heading north. The Commission needs to review the established trails to see if any sections need to be re-routed. Once the trails have been agreed upon, trail markers can be installed.
- **Highland Park, blocked culvert:** Blasiak, Miller, Nevins, and Pollock conducted a site visit of the blocked culvert on July 21, 2015. The blocked culvert is located along the main trail within the park. The blockage has caused the adjacent intermittent stream, known as Graves Brook and certified vernal pool to expand into a pond. After heavy rainstorms, the water floods the trail. DPW would like to unblock the culvert and allow the water's elevation to return to its original level. Since the proposed work will affect the surrounding wetlands, DPW will need to submit their proposal to the Commission for review and approval.

Project Monitoring:

- **Emergency Certificate (#15-05), 72 Colrain Road (Assessor's Map R26, Lot 13C):** Representatives from the College Park Trust slowly lowered the dam level to about half the height. On July 25th a dead beaver was found beside Colrain Road from being hit by a car. Since that date there has been no evidence of beaver activity at the dam to plug up the small breaches. The Trust will hold off proposing long term beaver management with the Commission until the beaver becomes a problem again.
- **562 Leyden Road (DEP #168-0298):** Pollock conducted a site visit on June 23, 2015 to inspect the replaced culvert. Pollock observed water is satisfactorily flowing through the culvert, gravel curbing is properly diverting runoff off the bridge, and vegetation has been established on the banks.
- **Overflow Parking for Green River Festival, Wedgewood Garden:** Pollock conducted a site visit on July 22, 2015. Pollock observed soil disturbance to the bank of the Green River. It appeared a vehicle pushed a dozer blade into the bank. Pollock also observed a large television set dumped along the bank. Pollock will ask DPW to remove the television set and inquire if any field staff is responsible for the soil disturbance.

Enforcement Updates/Possible Violations:

- **11 Plum Tree Lane:** Pollock received a phone call from a concerned citizen that tree cutting was occurring within the 25-foot No Disturb Zone to Punch Brook. Pollock contacted the landscaping company to cease and desist all activity within the 25-foot No Disturb Zone and sent a certified letter to the property owners requesting that they attend tonight's meeting. The property owner, Jean Conway is present to explain the activity. Conway explained that he



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allowed the landscaping company to cut the tree down because it was deemed dangerous. Conway apologized for not consulting the Commission first, and will replace the tree with a native tree. Pollock requested Conway to contact the Commission once the native tree is planted so a site inspection can be conducted.

Correspondence:

Site Visit Scheduling:

- **New England Power Company d/b/a Nation Grid, Cabot Taps Separation Project NOI:** Meet on-site at 4:30 on August 4, 2015
- **Berkshire Gas Company c/o Ishwar Murarka, Ish Inc., Mead Street (DEP #168-0290):** Meet on-site at 4:30pm on August 11, 2015

Next Meeting:

7:00 PM on Tuesday, August 11, 2015, at the Greenfield Department of Planning and Development; 114 Main Street

Adjournment:

MOTION: Moved by DeHoyos, seconded by Miller, no further discussion and voted 3-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Pollock
Assistant Planner & Conservation Agent

John Blasiak
Chair