



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, October 27, 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
Timothy Mosher
Thomas DeHoyos
Matthias Nevins*
Gail Miller

ALSO PRESENT: Nathan Jones, CDM Smith
Donald Ouellette, Greenfield Department of Public Works (DPW)
Christy Moore, Greenfield Department of Recreation
Maureen Pollock, Assistant Planner & Conservation Agent

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 13, 2015.

MOTION: Moved by Mosher, seconded by Miller, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 to accept the minutes from October 13, 2015.

*Nevins arrived at 7:03pm

Public Meetings/Hearings:

Cont. NOI - Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation, 11-17 Meridian Street (DEP #168-0310): Notice of Intent submitted by Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation, for property located at 11-17 Meridian Street (Assessors Map 19, Lot 47), for work pertaining to limited sediment excavation below the ordinary high water mark (elevation 126 feet) of the Green River at the former Swarf Disposal Area.

The representative for the applicant, Nathan Jones was present to explain the revised plan which addresses both the Commission's and NHESP's concerns with the project. The overall goal of the project is to remediate the site which was once home of the Greenfield Tap & Die. Northrop Grumman Systems Corp. has been able to remediate the upland sections of the property and now would like to remove all the soil with the residue oil from the bank and beyond the toe of the slope. The original plan for the restoration area included a 1:1 slope with rip rap. Based on NHESP and Commission comments, the restoration area has been revised to



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provide a gentler slope at 4:1 with native vegetation in lieu of rip rap. The restoration area will also include 16" DIA coir fiber rolls which will be laced together and staked as a means to protect the toe of the slope. The toe will be lined with natural rounded stones.

According to NHESP's habitat assessment, the site does not provide a habitat for wood turtles. However, the site may be used as a wildlife corridor for them. NHESP still needs to determine whether this project would present a 'taking' for wood turtles. NHESP has requested placement of boulders at the toe as a means to slow down the water's velocity.

The planting plan has been revised to include trees and shrubs. All erosion control blankets and nettings will be 100% bio-gradable.

Public Hearing closed at 7:25 p.m.

MOTION: Moved by Nevins, seconded by DeHoyos, no further discussion and voted 5-0-0 to issue an Approved Order of Condition (DEP #168-0310) with the following conditions:

1. *Salix interior* (Sandbar Willow) shall be planted instead of *Salix exigua* (Narrowleaf Willow);
2. *Vaccinium angustifolium* (Lowbush Blueberry) shall be planted instead of *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* (Bearberry);
3. All new plantings shall be monitored for two growing seasons and all failed plantings shall be replaced according to the following schedule:
 - a. Reports shall be submitted to the Commission at the end of the first and second growing seasons censusing the surviving plantings.
 - b. Plants that died in the previous growing season shall be replaced the following spring.
 - c. Reports shall be submitted to the Commission at the beginning of the second and third growing seasons listing the replacement plantings.
 - d. These reports shall include both a plant list and photos of the plantings.

Other Business:

- **Town-owned Tree/Shrub Nursery** – A memo has been sent to DPW, Recreation Dept, the Tree Committee, and Greening Greenfield regarding the Commission's intention to establish a tree nursery. The intention of the nursery is to supply the Town with trees and shrubs for future decades. The Commission is only exploring the idea of establishing the nursery and is not ready to implement any aspects of this project.

Don Ouellette, DPW Director and Christy Moore, Recreation Director were present to informally discuss the nursery. Ouellette is waiting to find out if the Town will receive a HUD grant which will provide 330 trees per year for the next three years. Ouellette asked who the operating manager



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would be for the nursery. Blasiak responded he would serve as the operating manager. Ouellette said DPW could help with clearing of the land and transporting the trees but cautioned that DPW only has limited time to assist with this project. The Commission will look at different models that could be used for this project and whether there is a real need for a town nursery. The Commission is reaching out to GCC to see if they would like to partner with the town. Moore expressed concern regarding potential traffic issues.

- **Street trees and landscaping planning for town properties** – Don Ouellette, DPW Director was present to informally discuss whether the Commission should have an advisory role for landscape planning. Ouellette mentioned plant selection for Town projects is already reviewed by DPW staff and the Greenfield Tree Committee, and so he does not think another Board/Commission is needed to review plant selection. Blasiak expressed that the Commission should have an advisory role for landscape planning as it relates to stormwater management and water quality. Mosher, DeHoyos, Miller, and Nevins expressed that they do not believe the Commission should have an advisory role for landscape planning as it not within the purview the Commission's responsibilities. Mosher, DeHoyos, Miller, and Nevins suggested that Blasiak who has vast knowledge and passion for plant selection should join the Tree Committee.

MOTION: Moved by DeHoyos, seconded by Mosher, no further discussion and voted 4-0-0 (Blasiak did not vote) to not have a Commission member serve as an advisory role for town tree/landscaping planning.

- **Green River Conservation Land – establishing a formal trail system:** Blasiak would like the Commission to discuss the problematic trails at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Pollock will produce a map that shows the existing trails for the discussion.
- **Candlelight Hotel (DEP #168-0306):** MassDEP informed Pollock that the applicant for the project should request an amended OOC to have the de-graded portions remain effective for a specified time period in the event of re-development.

MOTION: Moved by DeHoyos, seconded Nevins, no further discussion and voted 4-0-1 (Blasiak abstained) to contact the applicant about amending the OOC (DEP #168-0306).

- **Misc.:** Miller will not be able to attend the November 10th and November 24th meetings.

Project Monitoring:

Enforcement Updates/Possible Violations:



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Correspondence:

Site Visit Scheduling:

Next Meeting:

7:00 PM on Tuesday, November 10th, 2015, at the Greenfield Department of Planning and Development; 114 Main Street

Adjournment:

MOTION: Moved by Nevins, seconded by Miller, no further discussion and voted 5-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 PM.

*Although approved by the Commission, the Chair is of the opinion that these minutes are inaccurate and incomplete.

Respectfully Submitted,
Maureen Pollock
Assistant Planner & Conservation Agent

John Blasiak
Chair