



Roxann Wedegartner
Mayor

City of
GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

City Hall • 14 Court Square • Greenfield, MA 01301
Phone 413-772-1548 ext 3 • Fax 413-772-1309
mitchell.vye@greenfield-ma.gov • www.greenfield-ma.gov

Travis Drury, Chair. Jun, 2024
Fletcher Harrington, Vice-Chair. Dec,
2024

Erika LaForme. Dec, 2025
Christin McDonough. Dec, 2025

Agent: Mitchell Vye

GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, November 28, 2023
Greenfield Department of Planning and Development
Online via Zoom
Greenfield MA 01301

The meeting was called to order by Travis Drury at 6:31 p.m. with the following members:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Travis Drury (Chair)
Christin McDonough
Erika LaForme

ALSO PRESENT: Mitchell Vye (Agent)
Elizabeth Garofalo
Emily Boss
Koby Leff
John Shultis

Should any technical interruption to the meeting occur and the meeting is suddenly ended, it will not be resumed and all items will be automatically continued to the next scheduled meeting date. Contact the Conservation Agent for more information

Administrative Matters

Approval of Meeting Minutes from 11/14/2023

Motion by Christin to approve the meeting minutes from 11/14/2023

Seconded by Erika

The date in the file name will be corrected from the 15th to the 14th

Christin AYE

Erika AYE

Travis AYE

Motion passes 3-0-0

Schedule of Public Meetings & Hearings

The hearing for the project at the Green River Swimming Area was moved to later in the agenda.

- **Public Meeting: Request for Determination of Applicability: Invasive plant removal at 200 Green River Road (Map R33, Lot 13)**



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Fletcher joined the meeting at around 6:50.

The project was amended based on Mark Stinson of the Department of Environmental Protection’s comments. The trail will not be extended into the wetlands as previously planned under this permit. Herbicide will not be used in wetland area. Planks will be added onto felled trees to be used as a raised bridge instead of a bog bridge. There is no work being proposed within the wetlands. A delineation would be needed, however, to confirm the resource area boundaries. Herbicide would be used using a cut stem treatment method. Conservationists recommended having stockpiles close to where they are cut so as to not spread seeds. It was recommended that oriental bittersweet could be done year round. Applicant, Koby Leff, is open to Commission recommendations as to when the applications are done for other species. Elizabeth stated that cut stem treatments shouldn’t be done this time of year. Elizabeth recommended burning the stockpiles. Travis stated a burn permit would be needed. More information was requested on stockpile locations.

Motion by Fletcher to continue the public meeting on the project at 200 Green River Road to 12/12/2023
Seconded by Christin
No further discussion

Fletcher AYE
Christin AYE
Erika AYE
Travis AYE
Motion passes 4-0-0

Public Hearing: Notice of Intent: Bank stabilization at the Green River Swimming Area (Map R27, Lot 18) DEP # 168-0356 Continued from 11/14/2023

Alan Twarog of the Department of Public Works made another request to continue the hearing to the next meeting. A response to the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program was provided and a determination needs to be made by NHESP before the Commission can issue an Order of Conditions.

Motion by Travis to continue the hearing for the bank stabilization project at the Green River Swimming Area (DEP #168-0356) to the meeting on 12/12/2023
Seconded by Fletcher
No further discussion

Fletcher AYE
Erica AYE
Christin ABSTAIN
Travis AYE
Motion passes 3-0-1



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Other Business & Enforcement Updates

➤ Pickett Lane house plan preliminary discussion (R23-49B)

John Shultis presented his preliminary plan for a house on the currently forested lot on Pickett Lane, looking for the Commission’s initial thoughts. The project does not currently maintain 100 feet of undisturbed vegetation as required in the Riverfront Area performance standards under the Greenfield Wetlands Protection Ordinance, although Travis stated that this can be allowed if “an applicant demonstrates by a preponderance of evidence from a competent source that an area of undisturbed vegetation with an overall average width of 100 feet will provide equivalent protection of the riverfront area, or that a partial rebuttal of the presumptions of significance is sufficient to justify a lesser area of undisturbed vegetation.” Christin stated around 4-6 alternatives would be suggested for the alternatives analysis and provided examples, such as stating that the house’s location may be confined by zoning bylaws. Christin recommended using topography in the applicant’s argument as well.

Fletcher left the meeting at around 8:51.

➤ Conservation Area boundary marking

The text reading “City of Greenfield” will be made larger for the final design of the boundary signs. The Commission will try to determine how many signs are needed for the next meeting.

➤ Any topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the posting of this agenda

Elizabeth Garofalo’s name will be put forward at the December City Council meeting. She could be sworn in as early as January 4th. Emily Boss is interested in becoming an alternate member until Fletcher resigns.

Project Monitoring, Correspondence, & Site Visit Scheduling

The Department of Public Work’s Shelburne Road culvert replacement project is scheduled for Saturday, December 2nd at 10 AM. Christin ran StreamStats on Wheeler Brook and will share the results. She recommended someone bringing field measuring tape to get bankfull measurements.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:10 PM

Motion by Christin to adjourn the meeting

Motion seconded by Erika

No further discussion

3-0-0 – Motion Carries

Respectfully Submitted,



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Mitchell Vye,
Conservation Agent

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