



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, December 12, 2023
Greenfield Department of Planning and Development
Online via Zoom
Greenfield MA 01301

The meeting was called to order by Travis Drury at 6:30 p.m. with the following members:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Fletcher Harrington (Vice Chair)

ALSO PRESENT: Mitchell Vye (Agent)
Elizabeth Garofalo
Emily Boss
Koby Leff
Alan Twarog
Kevin Barbara

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 11/28/2023

Motion by Erika to approve the meeting minutes from 11/28/2023

Seconded by Christin

“Boundaries” will be specified to say “resource area boundaries”.

It will be clarified that the Riverfront Area performance standards would be under the Greenfield Wetland Protection Ordinance for the Pickett Lane project. “Required” will be changed to “suggested” regarding alternatives for the Pickett Lane discussion. “Will” will be changed to “may” in the sentence about the Pickett Lane being confined by zoning bylaws.

Erika AYE
Christin AYE
Travis AYE



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Motion passes 3-0-0

Motion by Travis to appoint Emily Boss as an alternate member
Seconded by Erika
Emily Boss stated she is agreeable to the appointment.

Erika AYE
Christin AYE
Travis AYE
Motion passes 3-0-0

Schedule of Public Meetings & Hearings

- **Public Hearing: Notice of Intent: Bank stabilization at the Green River Swimming Area (Map R27, Lot 18) DEP # 168-0356 Continued from 11/28/2023**

Alan Twarog of the Department of Public Works made another request to continue the hearing to the next meeting. The Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program has not provided a determination yet.

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 12/26/2023
Seconded by Erika
No further discussion

Erica AYE
Christin ABSTAIN
Travis AYE
Motion passes 2-0-1

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

Plans have been updated based on the Conservation Commission’s feedback. The applicant’s goal is to clear away the invasive plants until the trees can begin reclaim some of the areas which have become thick with brambles of multiflora rose and autumn olive. The fallen logs over Punch Brook would be reinforced with planks for crossing into the wetlands and to get to the other side of them. A delineation will be done to confirm the boundaries of the wetlands. Electric saws and handsaws will be used to remove the invasive species. Cut stem treatment would be done using a conservationist’s recommendation on a water safe herbicide called AquaNeat in the early spring. Brush would not be dragged more than 100 feet to avoid reseeding during transit. Applicant proposed leaving brush piles within the riverfront that would cover a smaller area than they did when



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alive. Permission was asked to begin work in one area where the boundary is obvious on the eastern bank. Elizabeth stated that burning would be effective to prevent spreading.

Motion by Christin to issue a Negative Determination Type 2 on the conditions that no work shall be done within wetlands. No invasive species work shall be done before the wetlands are delineated, other than area east of stream with the mature white pines. Additional work in wetlands requires further permitting. Stockpiles shall be done as proposed.

**Seconded by Erika
No further discussion**

**Erika AYE
Christin AYE
Travis AYE
Motion passes 3-0-0**

➤ **Public Hearing: Notice of Intent: Culvert replacement on Shelburne Road DEP # 168-358**

The existing culvert is a 4-sided concrete box located on Wheeler Brook under Shelburne road. The culvert is failing and has negative impacts on the environment. It is poor for wildlife passing. The crossing is very small and there is a steep drop-off on the downstream side. A 9.5 foot span is proposed, 35 feet long with U-Wall wingwalls. The proposed culvert would allow for more flooding. Coir logs would be used for bank stabilization. The project is not within wetlands or flood zone. The banks were delineated for this project. There would be about 1,367 square feet of permanent impact and 7,561 square feet of temporary impact. Bankfull measurements were taken upstream due to the steep elevation downstream. The bankfull measurement was around 14-15 feet. The stream is in a very narrow valley and meeting stream crossing standards would greatly increase the costs for this project. Christin stated that any improvements would be beneficial due to the poor quality of the existing culvert. Christin also stated that project is within land under water. The dewatering plan should be approved by the Commission. Mark Stinson of the Department of Environmental Protection commented that turbidity curtains were ineffective. It was added to the plan as Conservation Commissions often require it. Christin suggested rounded stone over angular riprap as it's better for wildlife. No trees removed in downstream, although 1 or 2 small trees may need removing upstream for grading purposes. The replacement stream crossings worksheet will be filled out. There were no public comments.

Motion by Travis to continue the hearing on the culvert replacement on Shelburne Road to December 26th, 2023

Seconded by Christin

**Christin AYE
Erika AYE
Travis AYE
Motion passes 3-0-0**



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➤ **Public Meeting: Request for Determination of Applicability: Water line installation on Leyden Road to the Greenfield Swimming Area**

The project proposes a water line installation within the Green River flood plain and Riverfront Area, along with the buffer zone of Bordering Vegetated Wetlands. There are no permanent impacts proposed. The project is 25 feet from the wetlands at its closest point. The proposed is within the existing roadway, aside from about a stretch of 135 feet that is on the grassy area on the opposite side of road from wetlands and river. Map with work and resource areas in relation. There are exemptions for installing water lines on existing road. The entire project is exempt from Massachusetts Endangered Species Act review as its exemptions extent 10 feet from the road. The commission requested a map showing proposed stockpile locations and where exactly work is proposed relative to the resource areas. The applicant requested a continuation.

Motion by Travis to continue the discussion for the water line installation on Leyden Road at the December 26th, 2023 meeting
Seconded by Christin

Erica AYE
Christin AYE
Travis AYE
Motion passes 3-0-0

Other Business & Enforcement Updates

No updates.

Project Monitoring, Correspondence, & Site Visit Scheduling

A Request for Certificate of Compliance was submitted for the utility line relocation project (DEP # 168-0348) located in the area adjacent to the Greenfield 28W Substation on Power Court.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 PM

Motion by Christin to adjourn the meeting
Motion seconded by Erika
No further discussion

Christin AYE
Erika AYE
Travis AYE
3-0-0 – Motion Carries

Respectfully Submitted,



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Mitchell Vye,

Conservation Agent

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