

CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

January 10, 1991

PRESENT

R. Klattenberg, Chairman  
A. Siniscalchi  
C. Harris  
C. Peterson  
E. Kelsey  
M. Giamei  
K. Coley  
J. Brawerman  
S. Faraci

ABSENT

L. Tundermann  
T. Christopher  
J. Nofi  
G. Russo  
J. Chace

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by R. Klattenberg, Chairman, at 7:05 p.m. in Room B-20 of the Municipal Building. Alternate member J. Brawerman was seated as a voting member. M. Giamei was made Acting Secretary.

Draft Minutes

July 12, 1990

R. Klattenberg reviewed the meeting tape and was unable to find any problems which would warrant holding up the approval of the meeting minutes. A motion made by K. Coley (seconded by S. Faraci) to approve the minutes, passed 8:0 (abstained: E. Kelsey).

November 2, 1990

R. Klattenberg mentioned that the minutes were recently reconstructed from the tapes. A motion made by C. Harris, seconded by K. Coley, to approve the minutes, as amended, passed 6:0 (abstained: C. Peterson, S. Faraci, E. Kelsey).

November 27, 1990

A motion made by K. Coley, seconded by C. Harris, to approve the minutes, as amended, passed 5:0 (abstained: C. Peterson, A. Siniscalchi, E. Kelsey, S. Faraci).

December 13, 1990

A motion made by J. Brawerman, seconded by C. Peterson, to table the minutes, passed 8:0 (abstained: S. Faraci).

Officers and Committee Reports

Vice Chairman - A. Siniscalchi did not have anything to report.

Chairman - R. Klattenberg voiced his appreciation for the work and accomplishments of the Commission over the past year and predicted another busy year in 1991.

A draft copy of the proposed July, 1991 - June, 1992 budget, as discussed with W. Kuehn and W. Baron for the Conservation Commission was passed out. Commission members suggested changes in the postage (\$500) and computer software (\$1,000). The budget request has to be submitted by January 15th.

A discussion of the numbers of maps and reports being given to the Conservation Commission when our input is requested was discussed. Past experience has resulted in too few copies being provided to Commissioners. R. Klattenberg will investigate this matter with W. Kuehn and W. Warner and report back.

Watershed Trails Committee - No report.

Open Space Preservation - No report.

Natural Resources Inventory - No report.

City Liaisons - No report.

Coginchaug River Task Force - No report.

Planning & Zoning Text Amendment - A. Siniscalchi reported that he and S. Watson are planning to meet on January 31st.

A motion was made by C. Harris, seconded by C. Peterson, to reorder the meeting agenda by placing new business before old business. The motion was approved unanimously.

New Business

Election of Officers

K. Coley nominated R. Klattenberg to be Chairman, seconded by S. Faraci. A motion to close the nominations was made by C. Peterson, seconded by S. Faraci. Motion passed 7:0 (abstaining: R. Klattenberg, E. Kelsey).

J. Brawerman nominated A. Siniscalchi to be Vice Chairman, seconded by C. Peterson. A motion to close the nominations was made by C. Harris, seconded by C. Peterson. Motion passed 7:1. (opposed: E. Kelsey, abstaining: A. Siniscalchi).

C. Harris nominated T. Christopher to be Secretary, seconded by K. Coley. A motion to close the nominations was made by C. Harris, seconded by C. Peterson. Motion passed unanimously.

1991 Meeting Schedule

A motion, duly seconded, was made by A. Siniscalchi to recognize Commissioner's obligations on February 14th (Valentine's Day) and reschedule the next meeting to February 21st (the third Thursday in February). Motion passed unanimously.

1991 Standing Committee Assignments

R. Klattenberg passed around a Standing Committee sign-up sheet which will be finalized by the next meeting.

City of Middletown - Smith Park Project

S. Faraci and A. Siniscalchi excused themselves from the room while the project was being discussed.

R. Klattenberg told the Commission that the Inland Wetlands Agency will be holding a public hearing on the Smith Park Project on February 6th. W. Kuehn has provided several copies of the project plans to the Commission for our review.

After a lengthy review of the project drawings, the Commission took a break at 8:40 p.m. and reconvened at 8:49 p.m. S. Faraci returned to the meeting after the break. A motion was made by C. Peterson, seconded by S. Faraci, to request that the Inland Wetlands Agency hold open the public hearing until the Commission is able to review the plans in greater detail and visit the site. Motion passed unanimously.

A. Siniscalchi returned to the meeting.

Old Business

1. Open Space Retention/Detention Basin Position Statement - Tabled.
2. Miner Hills Golf Course - No actions necessary.
3. Nature Trails Information Request from A. Guinness - J. Brawerman reported that the project is on-going until July. The Natural Resources Inventory Committee will work on this as recommended from a previous meeting.

Correspondence

None

Public Forum

None

Member Forum

E. Kelsey commented that the November 27th meeting minutes were "inappropriate and may be caustically looked at" and that she did not get called back to the meeting immediately following the item that she excused herself for. She will review the November 27th minutes to address her concerns about possibly missing a vote by being out of the room. The Commission acknowledge the reoccurring problem of remembering to recall members who have excused themselves after the discussion has been completed. The Chairman will pay particular attention to this problem in the future.

J. Brawerman notified the members of a photo contest sponsored by the Connecticut River Advisory Committee on April 15th. Any members interested should speak to Jane.

R. Klattenberg described the outcome of a recent meeting with G. Reif concerning a joint mapping project with the Middletown Planning Department and Midstate Regional Planning. Conceptually, the project would incorporate computerized mapping techniques. G. Reif suggested using the southern part of Middletown as a demonstration project because of the large undeveloped portions, unique features (Sumner Brook, active farmland, dense woodland, transmission rights-of-way, PRD, etc.) and current information (SCS study of Sumner Brook watershed). The pooling of money by the conservation Commission and Planning Department (Plan of Development Fund) was a viable possibility if the cost was acceptable. J. Brawerman will have the Natural Resources Inventory Committee look into the project costs. C. Harris suggested that the FEMA maps be included because they show more floodplain than previously.

A request was made to the Chairman by several Commissioners to begin to look at the attendance records of Commission members to see if some efforts can be made to have greater representation at all meetings.

Adjournment

At 9:20 p.m., a motion was made by C. Harris, seconded by E. Kelsey, to adjourn was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted:

Ronald P. Klattenberg and Melanie Giamei

APPROVED ON: \_\_\_\_\_