

**Conservation Commission**  
**MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 10, 2011**

**Present**

Jane Brawerman  
Sheila Stoane  
Katchen Coley  
Karen Swartz  
Joan Liska  
David O'Brien

**Absent**

Ellen Lukens  
Nancy Newman  
Steven Ladd  
Eric Mosher  
Michael Ennis  
Kate Miller

**Other**

Matt Dodge

**A. Call to Order**

Jane Brawerman called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm in Room 208.

**B. Roll Call**

The roll was called and a quorum was determined.

**C. Public Comment**

No one from public was present.

**D. Minutes of December 9, 2010**

Motion to approve minutes was moved by S. Stoane and seconded by J. Liska.

K. Coley abstained; all others voted in favor. Motion approved.

K. Coley asked questions about the agenda (open space stewardship, NDDDB, roadside vegetation management).

**E. Chairman's Report**

J. Brawerman the discussed issue of meeting attendance. M. Dodge will conduct a "doodle poll" to find alternative day and/or time.

**F. Committee Reports**

No committee reports. A discussion ensued regarding Jablonski open space purchase. M. Dodge provides update.

**G: Old Business**

1. **Review of by-laws**

J. Liska asked what month the term of office is up. We need to review the City ordinance and add this to the by-laws.

J. Brawerman indicated that we can't vote on by-laws as we need 2/3 of members present to vote, and suggested we might need to call a special meeting just to vote on the by-laws.

2. **Trail guide**

S. Stoane gave update on guide design. Eric Mosher now has all of Pat Rasch's information (the graphic designer). She will follow-up with E. Mosher.

3. **Commission vacancies**

- J. Brawerman spoke with Izzy Greenberg to see if she knew of interested citizens.
- K. Coley suggested that Mrs. Torop might be interested.
- K. Swartz wondered whether we might tap into other environmental organizations that meet in Middletown for members.
- J. Brawerman asked about having a student representative, and said she would talk to her contacts at the VoAg school.
- K. Swartz said she is planning to attend the CLCC conference on April 30<sup>th</sup> at Wesleyan and will try to recruit Commission members there. She also offered to put up notices on bulletin boards around town inviting people to join the commission.
- J. Brawerman offered to write a press release.

4. Roadside vegetation management

- M. Dodge updated commission on city mowing practices. He will check with DOT to inquire if they use any specific guidance.
- K. Coley will follow up with Karen Torop regarding roadside mowing.

5. Yale student project

Take off agenda.

6. Open space referendum

Members discussed the need for Common Council support and a sponsor. K. Coley offered to approach Ron Klattenberg.

7. Wesleyan GIS projects

- J. Brawerman provided some background concerning what Wesleyan wishes to do.
- M. Dodge explained that he has been in touch with Kim Diver, the professor for the GIS class, and needs to get her the Tynan and Guida Management documents for review.

H. New Business

Election of Officers –tabled until next meeting.

Annual Report – M. Dodge indicated that he would provide Conservation Commission input for the department's report

Strategic Planning – J. Brawerman discussed the need for more structure and direction for the Commission's work. She will work with Sheila to produce a draft of annual goals and workplan.

I. Staff Reports

M. Dodge provided updates

J. Brawerman reported on Project Green Lawn's meeting with the Mayor, and John Hall's discussion with the Mayor regarding use of CVH land.

J. Public Relations

None

K. Coley would like M. Ennis to continue writing a Conservation Corner.

K. Correspondence

None

L. Member Forum

None

M. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 9:05 pm was moved by S. Stoane and seconded by K. Swartz. Motion approved.