

**MINUTES OF THE  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
March 8, 2001**

**MINUTES**

PRESENT

H. Reid  
J. Brawerman  
K. Coley  
J. Beatty  
G. Rankin  
S. Stoane  
D. O'Brien  
J. Killian @ 7:40 p.m.

ABSENT

J. Fortuna  
K. Holden  
L. Holder  
J. Bagley

OTHERS PRESENT

Jim Sipperly, Staff  
E. Lukens

A. Call to Order

1. Roll Call

Chairperson S. Stoane called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. in the Community Room at the Police Department on Main Street. A roll was called and a quorum was determined. All members in attendance are full voting members tonight.

B. Minutes

1. Minutes of January 11, 2001

Motion: To approve the minutes as presented.

Moved by J. Beatty\seconded by H. Reid

Approved unanimously with K. Coley\D.O'Brien and J. Rankin abstaining.

2. Minutes of Special Meeting January 23, 2001

Motion: To approve the minutes as presented.

Moved by J. Beatty\seconded by K. Coley

Approved unanimously

with J. Brawerman\G. Rankin and S. Stoane abstaining

Minutes of February 8, 2001

3. Motion: To approve these minutes as presented

Moved by J. Beatty, Seconded by H. Reid

Changes: Add J. Beatty under present

Approved as amended unanimously

#### C. Officers and Committee Reports

S. Stoane reported that Ellen Blanker has been married and has moved out of the area and has resigned.

Mr. Sipperly reminded the Commission that we will be meeting here in the Community Room the next few meetings until the Council Chambers are finished.

#### D. Old Business

##### 1. Open Space Brochure

Mr. Sipperly reported that the Rockfall Grant has awarded in the amount of \$1250, to work with the Community College to finish the brochure. Discussion ensued. When the book is completed the Commission discussed selling it for a nominal price.

Motion: To charge an appropriate fee for the book to help pay for subsequent editions, and recoup costs for paper.

Moved by J. Beatty\seconded by K. Coley

Approved unanimously

##### 2. Plan of Conservation and Development

Mr. Sipperly reported that the plan has currently been on hold. The Planning and Zoning Commission was to adopt sections of the plan at various meetings and this has been tabled. Many comments were submitted to Paul Buckhurst from the Conservation Commission. The consultants are very disappointed that the time schedules are not being met.

### 3. CRISP document (Connecticut River Interceptor Sewer Project)

Mr. Sipperly reported that the comment period was extended but has now expired. L. Tundermann, L. Holder, and J. Brawerman comprised a sub-committee that developed additional comments.

L. Holder will get Jim Sipperly the document and he will mail to members without email. All of the comments will be included and DECD will incorporate them in a final document based on the hearing record established.

All questions from the Public Hearing will be answered accordingly.

### 4. Other

#### E. New Business

#### 1. Nature Center, Higby Reservoir

Mr. Sipperly stated that the Water and Sewer Department filed a grant for CDBG funds to rehabilitate the caretaker's house at the reservoir. This house will be transformed into a Nature Center that Park and Recreation will run programs out of. The Conservation Commission has been listed as a partner to develop and coordinate the project. Mr. Sipperly reported this concept at a subsequent meeting. A CDBG meeting will be held soon to offer support for the project funding.

#### 2. Harbor Management Plan

Mr. Sipperly reported that the Harbor Improvement Agency would like to present the newly drafted Harbor Management Plan for the City. The plan sets goals and policies for use of the waterfront. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Sipperly is also staff to this Commission.

Motion: That the Harbor Improvement Agency be added to the agenda at the beginning for the next meeting scheduled for April 4, 2001.

Moved by J. Beatty\seconded by K. Coley

Approved unanimously

### 3. I-3 Committee

K. Coley reported that she felt that G. Daley did not differentiate what his opinions were and that of the I-3 subcommittee, comprising Conservation and Economic Development Commission members. Staff will get copies of the report to Commission members who have not seen the final report, which was submitted during the CRISP hearing.

#### 3. Election of Vice Chair

#### 4. S. Stoane opened nominations from the floor.

K. Coley nominated L. Tundermann

G. Rankin nominated J. Beatty

J. Killian nominated J. Brawerman

J. Beatty made a motion to close nominations

Howard Reid seconded

Discussion: Much discussion ensued regarding L. Tundermann not being present.

Motion: To table election until the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Moved by J. Beatty\seconded by H. Reid

Approved unanimously

#### F. Correspondence

Mattabasset Management Study Plan was adopted and now a Study Committee has been formed to implement it. Berlin has completed a lot of the recommendations and has its own committee to work on implementation.

A letter will be going out to all the Mayors asking them to set up a Committee like Berlin. A discussion ensued.

Motion: To recommend to the Mayor that a Committee be set up to implement the Mattabasset Watershed Plan.

Moved by J. Killian\seconded by H. Reid

Approved unanimously

J. Brawerman discussed the funds cut to monitor the gaging stations along rivers and streams. A letter of support of re-establishing the funding was recommended. Staff will follow up on this.

J. Killian received information from a Clean Air Group. He would like them to come to a meeting and talk about current legislation. Mr. Sipperly reported that the CT Clean Air Association appeared before this Commission to solicit support for the “filthy five” legislation. A discussion ensued.

Motion: To empower the chairperson to discuss with the Clean Air Association on appearing at the next meeting under Public Session.

Moved by J. Beatty\seconded by J. Killian

Approved unanimously

#### H. Public Session

Ellen Lukens has 3 items

1. She would like the Commission to get a copy of the I-3 report.
2. She would like that each Commission adopt an open space area or a parcel to inspect and report on throughout the year.
3. She also thanked member s of the Commission for supporting her on getting back on the Commission.

#### I. Member Forum

K. Coley talked about national clean air issues

K. Coley would like people to read Tom Congdon’s article on regional land use planning in the March 8, Hartford Courant.

#### J. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 9:05 p.m.

Moved by J. Beatty\seconded by H. Reid

Approved unanimously.

