

**Conservation Commission**  
**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting of March 8, 2007**

**Members Present**

Sheila Stoane  
Kate Miller  
Howard Reid  
Katchen Coley  
Jane Brawerman  
Ellen Lukens  
Len Tunderman  
Jim Fortuna

**Members Absent**

Norm Zimmer  
Steven Ladd  
David O'Brien  
Michael Ennis  
Nancy Kiniry

**Others Present**

Matt Dodge, Secretary

A. Call to Order

Sheila Stoane called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm in Room B-20 in the Municipal Building.

B. Roll Call

The roll was called and a quorum was determined.

C. Elections

None

D. Public Forum

None

E. Minutes of February 8, 2007

Minutes will be rewritten and presented at next meeting.

F. Old Business

1. Trail Guide

Amend maps and add more in the spring.

2. Public Relations – Conservation Corner

- There were glitches with The Chronicle's email. They didn't receive Ellen Lukens' article. Ellen was provided with another email address and will include the article along with the Bio Blitz article for April. Ellen will send the new email address to Matt Dodge and he'll disperse it.
- Another article is needed for May. Chairwoman Stoane will call Michael Ennis.
- Kate Miller will compose a Lawn Care article for The Chronicle and Middletown Press.
- Ellen Lukens will write an article regarding Maromas.

### 3. Open Space Committee

- Matt Dodge told the Commission that we have a surveyor.
- Bill Bergan, licensed surveyor, who was chosen to conduct an A2 survey on the Flemming and Daniels parcels is not on the DEP list. Matt will check with Bill Warner.
- Matt Dodge will confirm status of North Morelli parcel.
- Matt will look into how much money is left to purchase open space and where money is coming from.

### 4. Open-Space Signs

- The Commission needs to agree on style of signs and use existing signs.
- Add graphics. An example was passed around and more will be brought in next week.
- Matt Dodge will bring in Tree Markers.

### 5. Bio Blitz

- A table will be set up for the Conservation Commission.
- Present an open space map, a sample of trail guides and market the trail guides.
- Slide show on laptop.
- Matt Dodge will ask Bill Warner and Jim Sipperly if they have digital pictures of sites.
- There is a need for volunteers to judge posters. (Possible judges: High School Seniors, Business People, Amato's, Library, Arts Commission, Kid City, Green Street Art Center staff, Jonah Center, Wesleyan Potters, First Church and Conservation members).
- There should be two (2) judges for each grade
- Participants will be 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> graders - possibly only 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

### 6. Recreation Trails

- The Commission doesn't like the parking lot as it is too close to the river. BMP for parking lot.
- Pavers alternative to impervious surfaces.
- The Commission states that gravel trails can be ADA accessible.

### 7. Park Steward Program

### 8. Urban Parks

Urban Parks – “proximity to densely populated areas” to be added under proposed open space selection. A motion to add as new selection criteria was moved by Ellen Lukens and seconded by Kate Miller. A discussion ensued. Motion passes with Katchen Coley opposing.

### 9. Sheila's report on Sustaining Agriculture in Connecticut

- Urban Environment Conference
- Dr. Robert Johnson – the Commission would like to use him as a speaker.
- Binder to be given to PCD Dept.

### 10. National Recreation Programs Grants

Matt Dodge updated the Commission on status.

11. Pilot Project to Demonstrate Organic Lawn Care Practices on School or Municipal Recreation Fields. (Grant)  
Application was submitted. The DEP will announce recipient at end of March.

G. New Business  
None

H. Correspondence

I. Member Forum

- Discussed the possibility of Farmland Preservation. Can the Commission add Conservation funds for this and include Open Space?
- Sheila Stoane will check with Bill Warner regarding referendum. Sheila Stoane, Ellen Lukens and Howard Reid will meet with Mayor.

J. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 9:05 PM was moved by Jim Fortuna and seconded by everyone.