

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

MINUTES

March 13, 1997

PRESENT

E. Roberts
M. DeRosier
K. Humphrey
J. Czuba
J. Fortuna
Stoane
K. Coley

ALSO PRESENT

L. Bowers

ABSENT

A. Siniscalchi
D. Filer
L. Tundermann
J. Brawerman
M. Knight
J. Beatty

S.

Vice Chairman Earle Roberts opened the meeting at 7:15 P.M. in Room B-15 in the Municipal Building.

A. Roll Call

A quorum was present

B. Minutes of February 13, 1997

James Fortuna seconded by Sheila Stoane made a motion to approve the minutes of February 13, 1997. All were in favor with Marie DeRosier and Earle Roberts abstaining.

C. Officers Reports

1. Earle Roberts reports that Earth Day will be at Long Hill Estate on April 26, 1997 from noon until 2:00.

A discussion followed on open space brochure development.

Katchen Coley will represent the Commission at the Nature Walk on March 21, 1997.

A discussion was held on the possibility of closing the gate at the Nature Garden. Signs possibly should be posted to notify users that park closes at dusk. It was decided to ask Police to patrol more often and ask if signs are needed; and if so, will arrange for this.

Marie DeRosier seconded by Kenneth Humphrey made a motion to talk with Wes Downing about park closing times ordinance and to ask that signs be put up at the Nature Gardens. Ask Police that park be patrolled more often. All were in favor.

2. Open Space Preservation - Members decided on March 31, 1997 at 7:00 p.m. for the Meeting on criteria to be used for the Open Space Evaluation.

Linda Bowers reported on Springfield, Massachusetts - Trust for Public Land conference on the future of open space preservation in New England.

3. Natural Resource Inventory - Linda Bowers reported that the Vernal pool talk on Wednesday March 12, 1997 had about 35-50 people and was well-done. A tape was made of the presentation and may be made available to other groups.

4. City Commissions Liaison - Earle Roberts reported that Committee comments on the Tricon Industrial Subdivision were presented at the Planning and Zoning hearing.

5. Park Liaison Committee - Marie DeRosier reports that Park Commission is reviewing the Blue Blaze trail. The well at Tynan Park should be reviewed for safety.

6. CACIWC - no report

7. Mattabasset River Study - no report

D. Old Business

1. Discussion of Conservation Commission Handbook

Kenneth Humphrey seconded by John Czuba made a motion to table. All were in favor.

2. Discussion of Lamentation Mountain trail destruction.

3. Open Space Management

Sheila Stoane seconded by Marie DeRosier made a motion to table. All were in favor.

4. Ridgetop Protection

Sheila Stoane seconded by Marie DeRosier made a motion to table. All were in favor.

A discussion was held on pursuing traprock ridge protection and also ridgetop regulations re: towers for cellular & PCS services.

5. Earth Day

Earle Roberts will discuss with Corinne Gill the idea of a photography contest. If pursued the commission will hand out entry forms on April 26, 1997. Contest winner will be included in Open Space Brochure.

Sheila Stoane will be putting together a committee to work on a brochure of 16 interior sheets, 5 photos (B\W) and a cover sheet. The Mayor has promised \$2000 for 5000 copies.

Marie DeRosier seconded by Kenneth Humphrey made a motion to pursue developing and producing a brochure. All were in favor.

Sheila Stoane suggests a committee of herself, Jane Brawerman and Earle Roberts to oversee and organize the brochure. She needs people who are familiar with each parcel to mark up parcel maps and write descriptions.

E. New Business

1. Meriden Magnet School

Katchen Coley explained the location and the relationship to the traprock mountain, wetlands and Nature Conservancy property.

Marie DeRosier reported that there are zoning impediments and constraints to eminent domain?

Kenneth Humphrey and Earle Roberts will look into this.

F. Correspondence - no report

G. Public Forum - no report

H. Member Forum

Kenneth Humphrey reported that the Newfield Meadows Group may be following up with other educational talks relevant to wetlands and ecology.

Sheila Stoane seconded by John Czuba, Jr. made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m. All were in favor.

