

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 11, 1991

MINUTES

PRESENT

R. Klattenberg, Chairman
A. Siniscalchi
M. Giamei
K. Coley
C. Harris
P. Bogue
C. Peterson
G. Russo
J. Brawerman
J. Chace
L. Tundermann (arrived 7:35)
E. Kelsey (arrived 8:23)

ABSENT

E. Patton
T. Christopher

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by R. Klattenberg, Chairman, at 7:15 p.m. in Room B-20 of the Municipal Building. Alternate member J. Chace was seated as a voting member. M. Giamei was made Acting Secretary.

Minutes

Drafted:

March 14, 1991 - a motion was made by G. Russo, seconded by K. Coley, to approve the minutes. Motion passed 4:0 (abstained: P. Bogue, G. Russo, C. Peterson, A. Siniscalchi, J. Chace, J. Brawerman).

March 26, 1991 - a motion was made by G. Russo, seconded by J. Chace to approve the minutes, as amended. Passed 5:0 (abstained: C. Peterson, G. Russo, P. Bogue, A. Siniscalchi, C. Harris).

Officers and Committee Reports

Vice-Chairman - A. Siniscalchi - no report.

Chairman - R. Klattenberg made reference to attendance in order to insure a quorum, requesting Commissioners to call the Municipal Development Office or the Chairman if unable to attend a meeting.

He reported meeting with the Mayor concerning the status of the Environmental Manager position. He also raised a concern for the Conservation Commission's request for mapping money in the Water & Sewer Department budget, as well as commenting on the administration of the Aquifer Protection Program.

L. Tundermann arrived at 7:35 p.m.

Natural Resource Inventory - J. Brawerman reported on the status of GIS mapping with a discussion and recommendations following for the Natural Resource Inventory Committee to take up at its next meeting.

City Commissions Liaison - L. Tundermann reported that the Committee will meet with the Natural Resource Inventory.

Open Space Preservation - A. Siniscalchi reported briefly on the status of the open space parcels recommended.

Planning & Zoning Text Amendment - A. Siniscalchi made a motion, seconded by G. Russo, to eliminate this item on the agenda at this time. Vote was unanimous.

Lamentation Mountain Tri-Town meeting - R. Klattenberg stated that a memo was sent to all speakers informing them that the participating towns planning and zoning departments are in the process of gathering appropriate maps and regulations for the next meeting. A letter will be sent to the CEO's of the three towns requesting their support. A walk will be scheduled to visit the area.

Old Business

DEP/DOT Enforcement Issues - L. Tundermann expressed the idea that there is a need for firm City policy/procedures with the Zoning Enforcement Officer, making sure they are carried out for all DEP/DOT area projects.

E. Kelsey arrived at 8:23 p.m.

A motion was made by G. Russo, seconded by J. Cace, that L. Tundermann will write a memo to ZEO George Lapadula stating the Conservation Commission's concerns regarding the importance of State projects in Middletown and how they conform to City regulations. The Conservation Commission encourages dialogue between the ZEO and this Commission as new projects are carried out. Copies of the memo should be sent to the Mayor, the Planning & Zoning, Municipal Development, Public Works and Water & Sewer Departments. Motion passed unanimously.

City of Middletown/McCutcheon Park - A. Siniscalchi left the meeting for this item. R. Klattenberg informed the commission that the McCutcheon Park Committee will meet on April 17th to discuss the proposed liner and review our memo.

A. Siniscalchi returned to the meeting.

Dennison Park - E. Kelsey recommended that since the MDC approved this project, they, as well as the Urban Forestry Commission, should be aware of the current status.

G. Russo made a motion, seconded by J. Chace, to table this item until the next regular meeting when Bruce Spaman can inform the Conservation Commission of the situation regarding the cutting of the trees at Dennison Park. Vote was unanimous.

Open Space Detention/Retention Basin Position Statement - motion to table was made by E. Kelsey, seconded by C. Harris, passed unanimously.

City of Middletown/Subdivision Regulations - R. Klattenberg commented on the importance of research, understanding and expertise in making recommendations for the revising of the City subdivision regulations. A. Siniscalchi suggested an organized procedure for the commission in carrying out the task. Beginning with an invitation for George Reif to speak to the Commission, commissioners gathering ideas and suggestions, getting recommendations from expert sources, forming a subcommittee, and finally bringing the information and recommendations to the full Commission would be an efficient procedure.

M. Giamei made a motion, seconded by G. Russo, to invite George Reif to our next meeting for the purpose of discussing the Conservation Commission's items for study regarding the City subdivision regulations redraft. Vote was 10:0. (abstained: E. Kelsey).

New Business

G. Russo disqualified himself and left the meeting at 9:37 p.m.

A. Siniscalchi left the meeting while the next item was discussed.

Country View Estates

L. Tundermann made a motion, seconded by K. Goley, ~~that the~~ Conservation Commission recommend to the Planning & Zoning Commission ot to approve the Country View Estates application until the applicant G. Russo provides a plan showing the required 10% of the total subdivision open space and a street network indicating how public access will be provided in accordance with Section 4.01.06.03 of the City's Subdivision Regulations. Furthermore, the Conservation Commission will have the opportunity to review the proposed open space designated by applicant as well as the street layout prior to Planning & Zoning approval.

E. Kelsey amended the motion to include: the maps should include abutting property within 200 feet in accordance with City Subdivision Regulations 03.04.

J. Chace amended the motion to specify: The open space that is designated must be consistent with the City Subdivision Regulations Open Space Objectives, Section 04.01.06.01.

J. Brawerman further amended: The plan clearly does not show nor address the treatment of steep slopes and rock outcrops. Vote on the motion, as amended, was unanimous.

A. Siniscalchi returned to the meeting.

Correspondence - None

Public Forum - None

Member Forum

J. Brawerman informed the Commission of Earth Day plans for April 27th from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

E. Kelsey made a motion, seconded by A. Siniscalchi, for the Conservation Commission to allocate \$200 for food for the Earth Day celebration. Motion defeated - 0:7 (abstained: J. Brawerman, A. Siniscalchi, K. Coley).

R. Klattenberg made a motion, seconded by A. Siniscalchi, that the Conservation Commission allocate \$50 to the Earth Day Committee in support of their program and that the Conservation Commission be given credit for the donation. Motion passed 6:3 (abstained: K. Coley).

J. Brawerman alerted the Commission about a State Bill that would weaken the Wetlands Protection Act.

E. Kelsey was disturbed that the Tri-Town Lamentation Mountain meeting was not noticed in the public. She felt misled by her vote to allocate money for the meeting.

J. Brawerman set a date of April 23, 1991 at 7:30 p.m. for a joint meeting of the Natural Resource Inventory Committee and the City Commissions Liaison Committee.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 11:01 p.m. made by C. Harris, seconded by J. Chace, was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Melanie P. Giamei
Acting Secretary

MPG/bds

APPROVED ON: _____