

**Conservation Commission**  
**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting of May 10, 2007**

**Members Present**

Ellen Lukens  
Kate Miller  
Jim Fortuna  
Jane Brawerman  
Steven Ladd  
David O'Brien

**Members Absent**

Sheila Stoane  
Len Tunderman  
Katchen Coley  
Michael Ennis  
Nancy Kiniry  
Howard Reid

**Others Present**

Matt Dodge, Secretary

A. Call to Order

Ellen Lukens called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm in Room 208 in the Municipal Building

B. Roll Call

The roll was called and a quorum was determined.

C. Public Forum

No members of the public were present.

D. Minutes of April 12, 2007

No action was taken.

E. Old Business

1. Trail Guide

Postpone addendum until September.

2. Public Relations- Conservation Corner

- Dave Colberg is no longer writing an article Ellen Lukens will write an article for the Chronicle in its place.
- June article of legislation – Kim O'Rourke – "no pesticides bill"
- Kim O'Rourke article – "no pesticides bill"
- An article for July is needed – possibly a BioBlitz follow-up article

3. Open space status

- Bill Bergan no longer doing A2 surveys of Flemming and Daniels properties due to lack of liability insurance. Working on attaining 3 more quotes.
- No property transactions
- Wilcox – Blue Trail installation – Matt to meet with CTFP to discuss work on property and deterring ATV/Motorcycle use

- Discussion on calling in the police for ATV activity ensued – Michiel explained that the police would respond if called
4. Open space signs
- Conservation Area sign pictures were viewed as examples of what CC could use for signs
  - Design of new signs tabled until more members are present and involved
  - In addition to “No Motorized Vehicles” signs needed for Guida, Wilcox and Daniels-Schwartzkopf and posts with chains installed at Guida and Conservation Area signs needed for Wilcox and Daniels-Schwartzkopf it is was also determined that McCutcheon Park trailhead and the access point at the other end of Crystal Lake needs Conservation Area signs. Matt will check on this.
  - Add to agenda – Subcommittee for determining sign design
5. Bio Blitz
- Ellen explained locations of field surveys and personnel
  - middle and high school students matched up with scientists
  - Bob Pyle – “Nature Deficit Disorder”
  - Gina McCarthy – Keynote speaker
  - 25+ tables
  - \$27,000 raised
  - Discussion ensued regarding the public’s involvement in BioBlitz activities. Ellen explained that they will: visit tables (Botanical Society, Mycological Society, Insect displays), gather informational brochures, and participate in scavenger hunts. There will be activity tables in gym for kids with mini bio-blitz information
  - PTA to sell food.
  - Guided Walks to ID plants
  - Kate discussed Legacy Project for Snow School – classes will plant a plant and take care of it – volunteers will take care over the summer.
  - Jonah Center will provide ID signs for plants
  - Parents will provide map of plantings
  - Grad student will provide interesting facts on each plant.
  - Books will be on sale at Broad Street Books
  - Book signing – John Himmelman (moth expert)
6. Park Steward Program
- Postponed -Contact Chris regarding boy scout troop to clean up and realign trail at Cucia Park
7. Organic Lawn Care
- Jane Brawerman - DEP newsletter. Manchester selected from the 30 municipalities that applied.
  - Hubbard – canceling contract with ChemLawn once they start organic fertilizer
8. Site Plan Review
- Reviewed revised Middle Street plans– should revised plans be reviewed by Wendy Goodfriend?

#### F. New Business

- Mile Lane Army Reserve Base – presented by Michiel Wackers
- Commissioners to review and comment on potential uses/issues at future meetings

#### G. Correspondence

- Norm Zimmer resignation
- Email from Kim O'Rourke giving updates on her projects

#### H. Member Forum

No discussion

#### I. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:40 PM was moved by Jim Fortuna and seconded by Ellen Lukens  
Approved unanimously.