

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MINUTES

May 10, 1990

PRESENT

R. Klattenberg, Chairman  
A. Siniscalchi  
M. Giamei  
J. Brawerman  
K. Coley  
S. Faraci  
E. Kelsey  
J. Nofi

ALSO PRESENT

4 Members of the Public

ABSENT

D. Archer  
C. Harris  
H. Kasper  
R. Otto  
C. Peterson  
G. Russo

The meeting was called to order by R. Klattenberg, Chairman, at 7:07 p.m. in Room B-20 of the Municipal Building. Due to the absence of H. Kasper, Secretary, M. Giamei was appointed as Acting Secretary for the meeting. Alternate member J. Brawerman was seated in place of regular member C. Harris.

Minutes

R. Klattenberg, Chairman, discussed a proposal to improve the procedure for reviewing and accepting minutes that would start with the next meeting. The new procedure calls for a review of the draft minutes by the officers prior to their distribution to all members.

1. Upon a motion by A. Siniscalchi, seconded by K. Coley, the minutes of the March 26, 1990 Bylaws Subcommittee were approved with the following amendments:

Paragraph 2, strike the last two sentences and replace them with: "The Subcommittee also discussed presenting these amendments to the entire Commission at its meeting that evening and attaching a copy of the amended bylaws to the minutes upon their completion. (Note: The Commission, at its May 10, 1990 meeting noted that the amended bylaws have not yet been attached.)"

The Commission unanimously approved the motion with E. Kelsey abstaining.

2. Upon a motion by A. Siniscalchi, seconded by K. Coley, the Commission voted to accept the March 26, 1990 Bylaws Subcommittee minutes, as amended, as follows: Aye: R. Klattenberg; A. Siniscalchi; M. Giamei, J. Brawerman; K. Coley. Nay: E. Kelsey. Abstaining: S. Faraci; J. Nofi.

MINUTES

3. Upon a motion by S. Faraci, seconded by J. Nofi, the Commission unanimously voted to table the minutes of the April 5, 1990 Special Meeting due to the fact that corrections needed to be verified.
4. Due to the absence of Watershed Trails Subcommittee Chairman G. Russo, and H. Kasper, the minutes of the April 17, 1990 meeting was tabled.
5. Upon a motion by A. Siniscalchi, seconded by S. Faraci, the Commission unanimously approved the minutes of the April 23, 1990 rescheduled regular meeting with the following amendments:

Page 1 "Members Present", delete word "and" before G. Russo's name to read as follows: "...Sandra Faraci, Rosalie Otto, Glenn Russo and Jane Brawerman."

Under "Minutes", the first paragraph should read as follows: ".....the minutes of the March 26, 1990 Commission meeting with the following....."

Page 2, under "New Business", the second paragraph should read as follows: "Jim Gibbons and Allison Guinness addressed concerning the powers and duties of the Conservation Commission which included indexing open space both private and publicly owned. They presented and explained various maps which their office prepared. A copy of their presentation is hereby made of these minutes."

The third paragraph should read as follows: "Anne Bickford and Arlene Rich, members of the....."

The fifth paragraph, first sentence, should read: ".....Loffredo, of the Planning & Zoning Commission,....."

Page 3, seventh sentence from top of the page should read: ".....land acquisition. The Mayor....."

Under "Correspondence", the first paragraph should read as follows: ".....send the postcard supporting the reincorporation they requested."

Under "Public Forum", the first paragraph should read: "Earle Roberts suggest that the Commission should have a better defined long term agenda."

Second paragraph,, first sentence should read: "...words open space are used regarding....." The last sentence should read: ".....Commission use "privately owned" undeveloped land."

Under "Committee Reports", the first paragraph should read: ".....advised that the draft legislation protecting volunteer commissioners against law suits was coming along favorably."

Page 4, first sentence, should read: ".....report on the Coginchaug River Task Force."

MINUTES

Second sentence should read: ".....another event would be planned..."

Third paragraph, fourth sentence to end, should read as follows: "Comm. Russo suggested that [DELETE: the Commission ask the Common Council. He suggested] we should ask the Common Council for an appropriation to have a feasibility study done and then present the facts back to the Common Council. Comm. Russo also reported that the Mayor felt money could be found in the budget for this purpose. Chm. Klattenberg reported that William Baron, at the last month's budget hearing, stated that if an environmental professional [DELETE: was] were on board with the Water & Sewer Department, he would be able to devote time to the Watershed Trails Project. This issue was tabled for further discussion due to lack of additional tapes."

6. Upon a motion by J. Nofi, seconded by K. Coley, the Commission unanimously voted, with E. Kelsey abstaining, to approve an amendment to the March 26, 1990 minutes on page 3, first paragraph, last sentence, as follows: ".....appoint D. Archer and J. Nofi as the representatives of the Task Force with R. Klattenberg as first back up and K. Coley as second back up."

Before ending the discussion on minutes, the A. Siniscalchi, Vice Chairman, expressed his support for the proposal to streamline the review and approval of meeting minutes.

#### Officers and Committee Reports

Chairman - R. Klattenberg, Chairman, reported than an environmental professional was approved in the City budget. He further advised that he will assist in the preparation of a job description and will serve on a review committee for the purpose of hiring an environmental professional.

Earth Day - J. Brawerman noted that the Conservation Commission sponsored a Bear Hill hike on May 6, 1990. There being no further 1990 activities scheduled, the Earth Day Committee will no longer be a regular agenda item.

Bylaws - A. Siniscalchi stated that the Subcommittee met and he will review the proposed draft under Old Business.

Watershed Trails Subcommittee - There was no report at this time, due to the absence of Subcommittee members G. Russo and H. Kasper. The Commission received a letter from the Middletown Water Pollution Control Authority expressing their opposition to a request for hiking trails on the Mt. Higby Watershed Area. Upon a motion by K. Coley, seconded by E. Kelsey, the Commission voted unanimously to table discussion of this matter until our next regular meeting.

#### Old Business

1. Bylaws - Subcommittee Chairman A. Siniscalchi urged the adoption of bylaws. He expressed appreciation to Barbara Santangelo for doing an

by K. Coley, the Commission voted to table the discussion on bylaws to allow for more members to vote at a future meeting. The vote was as follows: Aye: E. Kelsey; J. Nofi; S. Faraci. Nay: R. Klattenberg; K. Coley; M. Giamei. Abstaining: A. Siniscalchi; J. Brawerman. The vote was a tie and, therefore, rejected. After a review of Robert's Rules, A. Siniscalchi presented evidence that a tie vote will fail to accept a motion. E. Kelsey disputed the interpretation.

Commission members discussed whether approval of the bylaws required a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote or a majority vote to approve.

K. Coley moved, seconded by M. Giamei, to approve the bylaws, as amended. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

K. Coley motioned, seconded by S. Faraci, that at a special meeting before the next regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission vote on the bylaws as well as other business. The vote was as follows: Aye: R. Klattenberg; M. Giamei; A. Siniscalchi; J. Brawerman; K. Coley; S. Faraci; J. Nofi. Nay: E. Kelsey.

2. The Commission tabled discussion on the Form Letter for Prospective Land Acquisitions.
3. R. Klattenberg, Chairman, asked that the Commission be prepared to begin discussions of the goals of the Conservation Commission at the next meeting.

#### New Business

The Commission tabled discussion on the Open Space Priority System until the next regularly scheduled meeting.

#### Correspondence

Freshwater Wetlands Conference - Commission members wishing to attend the conference will be required to register themselves and submit the related paperwork and receipts to the Municipal Development Office for reimbursement. Members attending the conference on June 16th will report at the Commission meeting following the conference.

It was suggested that Commission members read the background information on the Land Acquisition Policy Package as the State has matching funds available.

#### Public Forum

J. Pierce requested a copy of the bylaws that are currently in draft form. R. Klattenberg would provide a copy after the bylaws have been approved by the Commission.

MINUTES

Member Forum

A. Sinicalchi presented reference to Robert's Rules that stated only a simple majority is needed to approve bylaws.

There being no further business to come before the Commission and upon a motion, duly seconded, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Melanie Giamei  
Acting Secretary

MINUTES OF MAY 10, 1990

APPROVED ON June 14, 1990