

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Regular Meeting of May 12, 2005

Members Present

Sheila Stoane
Len Tundermann
Katchen Coley
Kate Miller @ 7:15
James Fortuna
Nancy Kiniry
Laura Hall
Michael Ennis
David O'Brien @ 7:18

Members Absent

Gerald Rankin
Ellen Lukens
Howard Reid
Stephen Ladd
Jane Brawerman

Others Present

Brian Robinson, ZEO

A Call to order

B. Roll Call.

Chairwoman Sheila Stoane called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m in Room 208 in the Municipal Building. The roll was called and a quorum was determined. There are no members of the public present.

C. Public Forum

None

E. Minutes

Minutes of the April 14, 2005 meeting.

Motion to approved minutes moved by Michael Ennis and seconded by Katchen Coley.
Approved unanimously

F. Old Business

1. Trail Guide

Sheila Stoane handed out guides to those members who did not receive one. Sheila recommended a section on the website for feedback on the trail guides. Sheila asked for volunteers to sell trail guides at Cruise Night, which is June 9th – 5:30 to dark.

2. Public Relations – Conservation Corner

Michael Ennis summarized that Ellen Lewkins submitted an article for the June Chronicle. Nancy Kiniry will be featured on the June cover of the Chronicle for the announcement of Trail Day on June 4th.

Member of the commission were asked to lead hikes at Guida Farm, Long Hill Estate land McCutcheon Park.

Laura Hall will lead a one hour hike at Wadsworth State Park at 9:00 a.m- meet at the main parking lot off of Wadsworth Street.

Nancy Kiniry will lead a family-friendly walk/hike at 12:00 noon at Smith Park on Country Club Road just west of the Moody School. Meet at the pavilion.

Dave O'Brien will guide a hike at 11:0) a.m through the woods above Crystal Lake, at McCutcheon Park on Livingston Road (off Millbrook Road). Meet at the parking area before the gatehouse.

These hikes will take place on June 4th and will be posted on website – middletownplanning.com

3. Open Space Status

Brian Robinson stated that the Graves application not funded.

Jim Fortuna stated that the State of Connecticut has donated property to the City of Middletown that was formerly part of the CVH property. Fortuna passed around the map of the CVH property that was donated to the City. Kate Miller will contact Middlesex Community College about adopting a trail.

4. Other - City Forester

Brian Robinson summarized. Tom Degnan will start preparing a Forestry Management Plan for the Wilcox properties.

Sheila Stoane recommended Wilcox 1 & 2, Vernlund, Wesleyan on Lamentation, (Guy Russo, Director of Water & Sewer).

Nancy Kiniry recommended an article on Conservation Corner for September or October to obtain public comment.

Brian Robinson will contact Guy Russo and meet with Tom Degnan.

G. New Business

1) Restructuring of Local Land Use Commissions Proposed – HB 1083

a). HB1083 - Sheila Stoane believes it is now a dead bill.

b). POCD – Add to old business.

c). Clean energy – Sheila Stoane asked the Committee to enroll

- B. Wall – one page flyer on Clean Energy
- Possible website signup list

2) Guida Insecticide / Pesticide issue

Michael Ennis read and summarized a letter from Tony Connor regarding the Guida property. Sheila Stoane stated that the Guidas retained agricultural use of the property but insecticide/pesticide use was never discussed.

The Commission discussed replying to Tony Connors and asked that a copy of the letter be sent to the Commissioners. Sheila Stoane said that she will contact Ron Klattenberg regarding the Guida property.

3) Bond Referendum

No new information.

4) Stopping lawn-care pesticide use. The Conservation Commission has endorsed the promotion of a program that will encourage residents and businesses in Plainville to voluntarily stop using chemicals and synthetic fertilizers on their lawns and gardens.

Kate Miller summarized.

H. Correspondence

Michael Ennis read a thank you letter from Marie Derosier and submitted for the file.

I. Member Forum

Kathen Coley summarized the bonding bill for open space and farmland preservation and the bottle bill to include water bottles.

Motion that the Conservation Commission join the coalition that is supporting the bottle bill. Approved unanimously

Katchen Coley will organize coalition organization in Hartford.

Ellen Lukens recommended Bio Blitz for UCONN to conduct at Veteran's Park.

Motion for Sheila Stoane to write a letter to the Board of Education to support and promote a Bio Blitz by UCONN. Moved by Katchen Coley and seconded by Kate Miller. Approved unanimously

J. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 9:00pm

Moved by Jim Fortuna and seconded by Len Tundermann

Approved unanimously