

**MINUTES OF THE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 8, 2002**

MINUTES

PRESENT

N. Kiniry
K. Coley
J. Fortuna
L. Holder
G. Rankin
D. O'Brien

ABSENT

L. Tundermann
S. Stoane
J. Brawerman
H. Reid

OTHERS PRESENT

J. Sipperly, Staff

A. Call to Order

Due to the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, the members present selected by consensus, N. Kiniry to be Acting Chairman.

N. Kiniry, acting Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm in Room 208 of the Municipal Building. The roll was called and a quorum was determined. All members in attendance are full voting members.

B. Minutes

Minutes of July 11, 2002

Minutes of July 11, 2002 were reviewed.

J. Fortuna should be listed as absent

Motion: To approve the minutes as amended moved by G. Rankin\seconded by L. Holder

Approved unanimously

C. Officers and Committee Reports

Mr. Sipperly reported that he has renewed the CACIWC membership for this commission and the wetlands agency

Katchen Coley asked about getting a Wesleyan student to do a study on invasive species at some of our city's Parks and open spaces. K. Coley also requested that signs be changed at the Nature Gardens.

D. Old Business

1. Plan of Conservation and Development

Mr. Sipperly reported that the Public Hearing will be held on September 25, 2002. The consultants will be available and the public will have the opportunity to ask questions. This will be the final stage of completing this document. Bill Warner will be at the next meeting to discuss the pertinent chapters.

2. The Mattabasset Management Plan

Mr. Sipperly stated that he still needs to find Planning & Zoning members and Council members to serve on the Planning Committee for Middletown. He also reported that he is working with Public Works to put signs for the river on Industrial Park Road.

3. I-3 Zone Uses

This item will be addressed after the Plan of Conservation and Development is adopted. As well as item #5. Trap Rock Ridge Protection Regulations.

4. Trail Guide

All members should have the maps and text done ASAP. Beth Lapin was extended additional monies to finalize the book. Sheila Stoane has the materials for the book.

5. Public Relations – Conservation Corner

Gerry Rankin handed Mr. Sipperly an article on Higby Mountain

The first article will be on the actual reasoning for this column.

The second article will be on open space

7. Farm Report

Dave O'Brien reported on the status of his report. He is fine-tuning the date he received from the Tax Assessor's Office. He needs to meet with Frank Marchese the new Assessor.

Discussion ensued regarding establishing a fund for open space and/or farms and mention it in the trail book. The fund could be a donation conservation fund. We should explore how to set up such a fund.

Katchen Coley reported that September 15, 2002 is CT Farm Appreciation Day, Meryl Streep will be attending a ceremony.

8. Open Space Status

Mr. Sipperly reported that the requirements have all been met for the DEP regarding Swartzkopf and Daniels. Peterson Oil is still pending regarding the removal of the building. Verlunds's agreement is being formalized.

9. Workshop with P & Z

This will be done after the Plan of Conservation and Development is adopted.

10. CT Siting Council Public Hearing

Discussion ensued regarding the presentation that was done at the public hearing. They have until August 17, to submit information.

Motion: In absence of our chairman, the Commission authorizes Liz Holder to send the letter (Prepared for the chairman to present at the previous hearing) to the CT Siting Council.

Moved by K. Coley\seconded by G. Rankin

Approved unanimously

E. New Business

No new Business to conduct

F. Public Forum

No one from the public is in attendance

G. Correspondence

H. Member Forum

Every Tuesday at 6:00, a kayak\canoe trip leaves the Saw Mill Pub in July and August sponsored by the Mattabasset River Watershed Association.

I. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn at 8:26 pm

Moved by J. Fortuna\seconded by G. Rankin

Vote was unanimous