

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes

August 8, 1991

PRESENT

R. Klattenberg
A. Siniscalchi
M. Giamei
C. Harris
E. Patton
P. Bogue
G. Russo (left 9:00)
L. Tundermann (7:55)

ABSENT

E. Kelsey
K. Coley
J. Brawerman
C. Peterson
J. Chace

ALSO PRESENT

E. Roberts
J. Brooks
J. Pierce

Chairman R. Klattenberg called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. seated alternate E. Patton as a regular member, and noted that the Commission would have a new member, David Goff, to replace Tom Christopher. M. Giamei was designated acting secretary.

Minutes - Corrections to the July 11 Minutes are:

p. 2 - MDC Committee, Middletown Share = \$30,702

p. 6 - first paragraph add to last sentence "...prof. Terry Tondro and the City Attorney's Office to address...."

Upon a motion by C. Harris, seconded by E. Patton, the minutes were approved as corrected, the members voting 6 in favor, with 1 abstention (G. Russo).

Officer and Committee Reports

Officers: no report

Natural Resources Mapping: R. Klattenberg - relayed that the Committee will need to address mapping.

City Commission Liasion: deferred to later

Open Space Preservation:

A. Siniscalchi reported his Committee is working on the "fees in lieu" concept and noted the City will have to pass an ordinance to use this device. His Committee will schedule a meeting soon to review ordinances for a proposal to the Ordinance Study Committee. R. Klattenberg reported on a meeting held in July in the Mayor's Office with a key member of TPL, City Attorney, Finance Director and others, to set up the schedule for acquisition, including various Commission approvals needed. There will be a request to the Common Council to request release of the bond money on September 3rd, conditioned on P&Z designation of the parcels as open space in the Plan of Development. Bond Council indicated October 15th as a possible date for final release and closing.

Lamentation Mountain Tri-Town Project

R. Klattenberg reported he had been conferring with the different Town Planners about putting together the base map, which should be ready in about a month. W. Warner had been notified of a project in the area, and W. Voelker had been in communication on this. R. Klattenberg also pointed out a TV program on GIS mapping *was to be aired on the public access channel highlighting the city and commissions mapping Old Business project with midstate RPA.*

1. P&Z Subdivision Regulations: R. Klattenberg and the Commission discussed how important these were to both Planning and the Conservation Commission. W. Warner is working hard on these, and is just about finished with them. The draft goes to P&Z on September 11th, with a Public Hearing to be set for September 25th. He has also agreed to meet with the Conservation Commission at their regular September meeting. Commission members should review sections relevant to their activities for comment.

R. Klattenberg reviewed the need for extra meetings, and indicated that there will be a special meeting August 27th to discuss subdivision regs; a meeting on September 12th with Bill Warner; on special meeting September 5th with Terry Tondro to "brainstorm"; and comments to be prepared in the week of September 16th, since W. Warner needs them before the public hearing. (L. Tundermann arrives).

2. South Middletown Conservation Plan: R. Klattenberg reported on the need for mapping and indicated there will be more to report on this in September or October.
3. Mattabassett Non-Point Pollution Project: R. Klattenberg pointed out there would be a need for local money from each of the towns with hopes of federal money as well. This is an effort with Cromwell and the Middlesex County Soil and Water Conservation District. Upstream, Berlin and New Britain are also involved through the Hartford County District. A. Siniscalchi moved that the Conservation Commission authorize its chairman to write to the MCSWCD indicating its support of the program, and its willingness to work with neighboring communities in dealing with problems on the Mattabassett River in the non-point pollution program. Motion was seconded by L. Tundermann and voted unanimously.
4. Pingo Potholes: no report
5. Aquifer Protection Program: no report

R. Klattenberg noted that Middletown's response will begin once the State Regulations are developed. This can be discussed September 12th.

New Business

1. Janet Brooks of ^{the State of Ct. A.G. Office} ~~DEP~~ gave a presentation ^{to the Commission} on Pesticide Applications. She indicated there was a new role for Municipal regulation of this area in which the Conservation Commission may be interested. She gave an overview of the State Pesticide Laws, Federal Clean Air Act, posting procedures etc; but noted many laws that are overlooked. There is no regulation once pesticides are registered for sale, no control or site considerations on the private customer, and no accurate assessment of long-term effects of these applications -especially health effects from lawn-care pesticides. Information is sketchy from EPA, not available from the State, and local data-bases are non-existent on site specific habitats, etc. Concurrently, there is a proliferation of pesticides on the market. Ms. Brooks went on to indicate which laws were in effect including State registry and notification procedures, aerial application laws, a Supreme court case, and the fact that Federal laws do not preempt local regs but State laws may. Towns may wish to protect themselves by addressing their own local concerns through their own permitting process. She had three suggestions for the Conservation Commission:

- a. City departments should be asked about their own use of pesticides both indoors and out; specifically, Public Works, Park & Rec and Education.
- b. Require City departments to keep an inventory and to consider IPM. (Integrated Pest Management) Both DEP and UCONN Extension have programs in this.
- c. Ascertain which City employees are applying pesticides and whether they are trained. There are training programs for them at no cost to the City.

C. Harris indicated that the Health Department was already concerned about mosquito control spraying and careless ~~of~~ Lawn-Care trucks. R. Klattenberg suggested beginning the process by calling Leon Vinci (Health), George Dunn (Fire), Wes Downing (Park & Rec), and the Board of Education to find out what the current situation is vis a vis an inventory, application procedures, training, etc. E. Patton suggested we publicize the State Registry to (the general public for prior notice about pesticide application. She also will check with DEP and UCONN Extension about IPM programs, and more information since we know so little about either the health or environmental effects of pesticides.

BREAK FOR RECESS 9:00 - 9:05 (G. Russo leaves)

New Business (cont.)

2. Public Works Westfield St. Project: A. Siniscalchi had been in contact with Stan Watson, UFC chairman, about the trees which had been flagged; who, in turn, suggested that the Conservation Commission call the DPW on the issue. A. Siniscalchi thought that DPW would be saving some trees in this project, and would be forwarding plans to UFC in advance in the future. ~~Perhaps Conservation Commission would want to comment on current projects as well as the UFC.~~ He stated that Sal Fazzino agreed to forward future plans to the CC for their Correspondence comments, as well as the UFC.

R. Klattenberg noted the following items:

1. Notice of Dwight Merriam workshops with P&Z, IWWA on September 25th
2. George Reif has offered minutes from 1970's Conservation Commission meetings
3. Letter from DEP Commissioner regarding municipal requests for Federal money under the Land & Water Conservation Fund, to match local funds.

Public Forum

None

Member Forum

L. Tundermann reported on the City Commission Liaison Committee activities. They will have a special meeting August 27th to discuss Lee Farm Estates prior to the P&Z public hearing August 28th. Regarding the Fusari development, Meadows at Riverbend, which goes to public hearing on September 11th, there is no open space shown. He further reported, under member forum, of the DEP "Rivers" brochure and a video/slide program which depicts the rivers program in more detail.

P. Bogue reported on the Rabies program - 25 confirmed cases in raccoons, fox and skunks so far.

M. Giamei suggested looking at foreclosure properties for future sources of open space properties for the City.

Upon a motion by M. Giamei, seconded by A. Siniscalchi and voted unanimously, meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Cynthia G. Wilcox
Cynthia G. Wilcox

ACCEPTED: 12/12
as corrected