

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 8, 1994

PRESENT

M. Giamei
L. Messina
J. Fortuna
M. DeRosier
A. Siniscalchi
R. Klattenberg
J. Brawerman (7:25)
D. Filer (7:25)

ALSO PRESENT

L. Bowers

ABSENT

K. Coley
L. Tundermann.
E. Patton
J. Louiselle
E. Roberts
J. Fiero

Chairman Alan Siniscalchi called the meeting to order in Room B-15 of the Municipal Building at 7:08 p.m. All alternates were seated.

Minutes: Regular Meeting of August 11, 1994 - Changes: Add Melanie Giamei to the absent list. A motion by Ron Klattenberg and seconded by Marie DeRosier to approve as corrected passed with Melanie Giamei abstaining.

Officers' and Committee Reports

1. Officer's Report - Linda Bowers reported on several items of interest:
 - a.) Path-Bikeway Symposium on October 14th in conjunction with the Rockfall Foundation.
 - b.) Fall Foliage Photo Contest by the Urban Forestry Commission in October\November.
 - c.) Middlesex Land Trust acquisition of Cassa property adjacent to Guida Open Space.
 - d.) A Canoe Trip on the Mattabassett may be organized for October 15th.
 - e.) A grant for GIS Mapping of Long Hill Estate has been received.

Alan Siniscalchi thanked the Commission for their hard work on the Open Space Preservation.

2. Open Space - Ron Klattenberg will report later in the meeting
3. Natural Resource Inventory - Jane Brawerman had nothing to report
4. City Commission Liaison - Len Tundermann was not present - It was noted that there are items for Planning & Zoning to be addressed
5. Lamentation Mountain Tri-Town Project - Ron Klattenberg has received a proposal for an ordinance in Meriden for ridgetop protection. He wondered whether Middletown can do that also? The members agreed to address this more fully at Commission's next meeting. Also that a meeting with DEP should be held to ascertain what their interest is.
6. Coginchaug River Greenway Project - Jane Brawerman reported that

the Urban Trails consultant is being bid out.

7. Park Liaison Committee - no meetings were held recently

8. CACIWC - Alan Siniscalchi noted that the annual meeting will be on October 27, 1994. The speakers will be Atty. General Blumenthal and Assistant Atty. General Janet Brooks

9. Mattabasset River Study - Linda Bowers had nothing to report except for Canoe Trip possibility

Old Business

1. Open Space Preservation - Alan Siniscalchi reported that on August 23, 1994 the Common Council unanimously approved the Rak purchase.

The Commission discussed bringing the Hubbard Estate property and the Marino property before the Common Council for approval of purchase.

A motion was made by Marie DeRosier and seconded by James Fortuna to bring the Hubbard and Marino properties separately to the Common Council. All were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Linda Bowers noted that the Trust for Public Land would like the Commission's input on approval of Rak park construction.

Melanie, Ron, and Len would like to be involved. It was decided to hold a Special Subcommittee Meeting in order to walk the property before work gets much farther along. The walk will be at 9:00 AM on Saturday September 10, 1994 at the Rak property. Linda Bowers will call the absent members.

A discussion was held on the parking lot placement at the Rak's. The Subcommittee will consider this and prepare a response to the Planning and Zoning staff.

Ron Klattenberg reported that the Guida Farm Conservation Area new sign is in place. Melanie Giamei mentioned the Cardinal wildflower has been blooming there.

Ron Klattenberg noted that this wildflower habitat should be preserved and taken into account in management plan. Ron may plan a fall walk or other event.

Ron Klattenberg walked the Tynan Park and noted that it is drastically overgrown.

Katchen Coley may be getting information from another town which has separate rules for Open Space and Parks. Members would like this item put on next agenda.

Ron Klattenberg spoke to Farmers and Mechanics Bank re: easement on Talcott Ridge property (for free) to cover the Washington Trail which crosses a portion of the property. Ron Klattenberg will also contact other property owner - Karen Johnson - where Trail occurs.

2. Open Space Management Plans - Linda Bowers reported that on Monday the Profession Service Committee will be meeting to select a consultant.

3. Sumner Brook Update:

Linda Bowers talked about future dedications in the Valley at the Hubbard and Bradey properties.

Melanie Giamei seconded by Marie DeRosier made a motion to bring Sumner Brook and Lamentation Mountain Report to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Details will be worked out.

4. Wal-Mart Update:

The Cromwell Wetland Public Hearing is continued until October 12th. The City Commission Liaison should look at the revised plan and see if further comments are warranted.

E. No New Business

F. Correspondence

1. Two upcoming seminars were noted.
2. The Nature Conservancy letter to the Tri-Town Project committee commending their work was read.

G. Public Forum

None

H. Member Forum

Dan Filer spoke about an oil spill at the High School on August 18th. The oil went into stormdrains and into brook. He wants to know what investigations were done. Linda Bowers will get the DEP Report.

Melanie Giamei noted that her family's appreciation of the Guida Open Space.

Jane Brawerman spoke on the River Insect Collection on October 15, 1994. Let her know if anyone is interested in participating.

Adjournment

A motion was made by James Fortuna and seconded by Melanie Giamei to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 pm. All were in favor.

Minutes prepared by:

L. Bowers

P. Tranchina