

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

MINUTES

September 9, 1999

PRESENT

K. Coley
E. Lukens
J. Brawerman
S. Stoane

STAFF PRESENT

J. Sipperly, Staff

ABSENT

J. Marhevka
M. DeRosier
J. Beatty
L. Tundermann

M. Zimmitti
K. Humphrey
J. Fortuna
A. Siniscalchi
M. Graves, Student Liaison

A. Call to order

Acting Chairman Alan Siniscalchi called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m. in Room 208 of the Municipal Building.

1. Roll Call

The roll was called and a quorum was determined.

B. Minutes of June 17, 1999

Motion: To approve the minutes as presented.

Moved by J. Fortuna\seconded by E. Lukens

approved unanimously

Mr. Sipperly also noted that no meeting was held on August 11th due to a lack of quorum. A memo reflected that A. Siniscalchi, M. Zimmitti and J. Sipperly were in attendance.

C. Officers and Committee Reports

Mr. Sipperly is working to rework some minutes as discussed in the June meeting.

A. Siniscalchi reported that the CACIWAC meeting will be held on October 28, 1999.

A. Siniscalchi reported that many discussions regarding commission issues are being conducted publicly and privately.

A. Siniscalchi would like to set time at the next meeting to discuss this issue. A. Siniscalchi also thanked the Open Space committee and the people who prepared the DEP Open Space Grant. A. Siniscalchi made a reference that “he thought the chairman would want to set time aside to discuss an issue” and secondly, the correct spelling for CACIWC is CACIWC not CACIWAC.

D. Old Business

1. Conservation Commission Open Space Brochure

S. Stoane and E. Lukens distributed a list of properties to be included in the book. An outline of the book format was also distributed. Commission members reviewed and discussed those documents and offered minor suggestions. S. Stoane reviewed the outline in detail.

Discussions developed regarding trail maintenance, clearing and marking. Mr. Sipperly stated that the trails to be mentioned in the book should be marked and maintained. This will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting. Wes Downing will be contacted by staff in order to discuss the trail marking at Crystal Lake. Commission members were urged to review this information and be prepared to finalize it at the next meeting.

2. DEP Grant Award\Planning & Zoning endorsement

Mr. Sipperly thanked S. Stoane, M. Zimmitti and J. Beatty for attending the Planning and Zoning meeting on August 25, 1999. The Planning & Zoning Commission after much discussion approved to endorse the DEP grant award. The Planning & Zoning Commission would like to get up a meeting to discuss open space issues and future grant applications with the Conservation Commission.

3. Fees in lieu of Open Space

Mr. Sipperly reported that he has reviewed regulations from South Windsor and Cromwell. Commission members were sent a packet of information previously. It was the consensus of the commission members present to have staff develop a draft regulation for Middletown. Mr. Sipperly mentioned that this should be coordinated with the Planning & Zoning as this would be added to the zoning regulations.

4. Other

a. Ed Markuch, property on Round Hill Road

The Planning & Zoning Commission also passed a C.G.S. 8-24 referral so that Ed Makuch could convey property to the City for use as open space. The Conservation Commission was the agent for that request. Mr. Sipperly will find out the terms of this conveyance.

Ellen Lukens stated that at the Sept. 9th meeting she asked the status of the Markuch land deal, it was assumed by the Commission in general that the council did not have to act on this, but staff found out, after the meeting that the council does have to approve the conveyance.

E. New Business

1. Fall Open Space Grant Round

Mr. Sipperly distributed an application which he received at a meeting sponsored by the Trust for Public Land and the CT DEP on open space. Middletown also handed out information at the meeting as requested by TPL relative to our open space program.

Mr. Sipperly and Bill Warner would like to submit another application this fall. Middletown ranked 9th out of 46 applications last round. E. Lukens was hesitant due to a conversation she had with another commission member. E. Luken recommended that the open space committee update the current list and possibly put an ad in the paper for the solicitation of new properties. Much discussion ensued regarding this issue.

It was the consensus of the commission members present to have staff draft a letter to the council informing them that there is another grant round, and that we would like to submit another grant and get their input and endorsement. Funding should also be investigated.

K. Coley would like to know the actual procedures of how we get the state money to make the actual purchases.

2. Mattabasset Stakeholders Meeting

Mr. Sipperly reported that he has attended two of these meetings and explained the groups objective. Jane Brawerman also reported that the group comprised of the 10 towns and cities located in the watershed are developing a comprehensive plan to improve and protect the watershed. Mr. Sipperly has a draft copy of a report. These meetings will be held every 2 weeks and if anyone is interested, contact Mr. Sipperly for times and dates.

3. Other Walmart Grants

Mr. Sipperly reported that Walmart Department Stores offer environmental grants between \$1,000 and \$10,000. Applications and further information is being sent to him to review.

F. Correspondence

Miscellaneous correspondence was received and passed around.

G. Public Forum

No one from the public is in attendance

H. Member Forum

Katchen Coley has noticed by looking at previous minutes that Jim Marhevka has not attended any meetings this year. He has been to two meetings and prior to those, was not attending many previous meetings. She would like the commission to send him a letter requesting him to resign, citing the commission By Laws.

Motion: That we write a letter to the Mayor stating that Mr. Marhevka is in violation of Section 3 of our bylaws and that he be removed from the commission.

Moved by K. Coley\seconded by K. Humphrey

Approved unanimously

I. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 9:15 p.m.

Moved by J. Fortuna\seconded by E. Lukens