

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting of September 11, 2003

Members Present

Sheila Stoane
James Fortuna
Len Tundermann
Mike Ennis
Robert Nolan
Jane Brawerman @ 7:17 p.m.
Ellen Lukens @ 7:19 p.m.
Nancy Kiniry @ 7:45 p.m.

Members Absent

Elizabeth Holder
David O'Brien
Gerald Rankin
Howard Reid
Katchen Coley

Others Present

James Sipperly, staff
Richard Lee

A. Call to order
1. Roll Call

Sheila Stoane, Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m in Room 208 at the Municipal Building. The roll was called and a quorum was determined. All members are full voting members tonight.

B. Minutes

The minutes of the August 14, 2003 meeting were done by Sheila Stoane, the Chairman, and they need to be completed by members who attended the meeting. Jim Sipperly was sent them via email recently and will copy and mail them for editing.

Motion: To table the minutes of August 14, 2003.

Moved by J. Fortuna / seconded by R. Nolan

Approved unanimously.

C. Officers and Committee Reports - Land Use Regulations

Sheila Stone Reported on the meeting that the Planning and Zoning Commission had the night before. Much discussion was held relative to the conduct of the P & Z meeting and the fact that the land use regulations that were proposed were withdrawn in their entirety. Discussion ensued about where the land use regulation goes from here.

Mr. Sipperly reported that he was asked by Bill Warner to ask this Commission if they will meet with P & Z to discuss these regulations. Much discussion ensued regarding the Conservation Commission's previous attempts to ask the P & Z to meet with them on this issue.

Motion: That the Conservation Commission will be happy to meet with the P & Z Commission and the Wetland Commission and the Urban Forestry Commission for the purposes of reviewing the changes to the zoning regulations.

Moved by Robert Nolan / seconded by Mike Ennis.

Discussion: Ellen Lukens wants to spell out what is to be done, by whom, so there is no overlap. She wants Bill to set a date.

Approved unanimously

D. Old Business

1. Mattabesset Management Plan

Mr. Sipperly reported that there is no formal group in Middletown working specifically to implement the recommendations of the Plan. However, he reported that city staff are aware of the Plan and that on a day to day basis, city staff take into account that document.

2. Trail Guide

Sheila Stoane reported that Midstate is finishing the maps with Beth Lapin. Ellen may write an article about the trail guide as it gets closer to being printed. She will talk about trail maintenance. We need some volunteers to mark and clear trails. Len and Jane will edit the final version.

3. Public Relations – Conservation Corner

Mike Ennis reported on the articles to be written, schedules and length, which is about 800 interesting words. People should come up with articles!!!

4. Open Space Status

Mr. Sipperly reported that he received a memo from Bill, (from Dave Stygar) (DEP) that the funds will be transferred for Sumner Brook properties very soon. A new accounting system at the State is to blame.

The Peterson Oil property has been demolished.

The Wesleyan property is being surveyed and they are trying to schedule a closing with Mr. Wilcox.

Mike Ennis reported that he still is setting up some field walks to view properties. Mr. Sipperly reported that he is working with an appraiser to conduct the four (4) appraisals.

5. Moratorium Meeting

This was already discussed under committee reports.

6. Fall Hike

Jerry Rankin agreed to conduct a hike from Tynan Park to the Water Company land to Higby Road. Mr. Sipperly will do a flyer and advertise the hike.

E. New Business

a. Hazard Waste Collection Volunteer

Mr. Sipperly reported on the date of the collection and requested volunteers.

F. Public Forum

Richard Lee showed up to talk about Open Space acquisition and about the process.

G. Correspondence

H. Member Forum

I. Adjournment

To adjourn at 8:40 p.m.

Moved by J. Fortuna / seconded by N. Kiniry