

**MINUTES OF THE  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2002**

**MINUTES**

PRESENT

S. Stoane  
D. O'Brien  
N. Kiniry  
G. Rankin  
K. Coley  
J. Brawerman  
H. Reid

ABSENT

L. Tundermann  
E. Lukens  
L. Holder  
J. Fortuna

OTHERS PRESENT

J. Sipperly, Staff

A. Call to Order

Sheila Stoane, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m.

Sheila Stoane said that Bill Warner reported that he could not attend tonight's meeting. He is proposing to meet either on September 24<sup>th</sup> or September 26 to discuss the Plan of Conservation and Development. Members should tell Sheila when the best date would be.

Move to New Business, Neal Millane

Moved by N. Kiniry, seconded by G. Rankin

Approved unanimously

Mr. Sipperly reported that the mayor and her administration has asked him to work with Neal Millane and this Commission to find some areas in the City that he may be able to utilize for nursery stock.

Mr. Millane gave a history of his operations.

Millane's has preserved a number of agricultural soils best manage new practices.

He also discussed his activities in Cromwell for the sand and gravel operation.

Millane was long ago growing on about 500 acres of fields. Most was leased land.

He is loosing 50-60 acres here at CVH land.

He is looking for additional land in Middletown.

K. Coley asked how much do you lease the land for or if he is paying 150/year per acre.

K. Coley asked about the pesticide insecticide use.

He explained that he talked to Tony Guida

N. Kiniry asked about the minimum he needs.

Michael Ennis was welcomed on board by the Commission

B. Minutes: August 8, 2002

Motion: To table the minutes of August 8, 2002

Moved by G. Rankin\seconded by M. Ennis

Approved unanimously

C. Officers and Committee Reports

No reports given

D. Old Business

1. Plan of Conservation and Development

Mr. Sipperly reported that the 1<sup>st</sup> hearing will be on Sept. 25, 2002. Sheila Stoane reported that Bill Warner could not attend the meeting tonight and that he would like to meet on either Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> or the 26<sup>th</sup>. The Commission members will let Sheila know which date is good. Bill will speak regarding the Plan of Conservation and Development.

2. Mattabeset Management Plan

Mr. Sipperly reported that he still needs representatives from the Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission.

3. Trail Guide

Sheila Stoane has information that she will be forwarding to Beth Lapin.

#### 4. Public Relations – Conservation Corner

Len Tundermann agreed to do the first article. Sheila Stoane will check with Len to see if he has or will do it. Mr. Sipperly and Mr. Rankin have agreed to do it as a back-up. We will need (4) articles for the editor to proof. Topics were discussed and who would do them.

#### 5. Farm Report

David O'Brien has finished his report and staff will have it typed up and distributed for the next meeting.

#### 6. Open Space Status

Mr. Sipperly reported that everything has been submitted to DEP and a check is being processed for Swartzkopf and Daniels Reimbursement.

#### 7. CT Siting Council Public Hearing

Mr. Sipperly reported that the information was sent to the Siting Council, as requested by the Commission.

#### E. New Business

##### Open Space Bonding, Referendum Question

Discussion ensued regarding articles in the papers to discuss the open space vote. Hartford Courant, Press, and the Chronicle will be contacted.

Discussion ensued regarding doing a TV show on the subject. J. Rankin discussed the possibilities of how this could be done. A ½ hour show will be produced.

Jane Brawerman left at 9:00 p.m.

Howard Reid left @ 9:20 p.m.

The possibility of developing a flyer was also discussed.

Michael Ennis and Jim Sipperly will work on this.

#### F. Adjournment/ Motion: To adjourn at 9:38 p.m.

Motion: To adjourn at 9:38 p.m., Moved by N. Kiniry, seconded by G. Rankin, approved unanimously

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