

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**November 13, 1997**

PRESENT

A. Siniscalchi  
K. Humphrey  
J. Fortuna  
M. Knight  
E. Lukens  
S. Stoane  
L. Tunderman  
J. Beatty  
J. Brawerman (7:35) p.m.  
M. DeRosier (7:25) p.m.  
D. Filer (7:25) p.m.  
K. Coley

ALSO PRESENT

James Sipperly

ABSENT

Earle Roberts

A. Chairman Alan Siniscalchi opened the meeting at 7:15 P.M. in Room 208 in the Municipal Building and conducted roll call.

1. The roll was called and a quorum was determined.

Ellen Lukens is a new member tonight and the chairman welcomed her to the Commission. The Commission introduced themselves individually and welcomed her aboard.

2. Election of Officers

Election of officers will be done at the January meeting. The officers are Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary.

B. Minutes

1. May 8, 1997 Regular Meeting have just been transcribed from the tape.

2. June 12, 1997 Regular Meeting

The Commission reviewed the June 12, 1997 minutes as presented.

C.2., change sentence to read: "A report from Len Tunderman stating that his committee has not met."

Motion: To accept the minutes of the June 12, 1997 meeting.

Moved by J. Fortuna; seconded by M. Knight approved unanimously with abstention from Sheila Stoane and Len Tunderman.

3. October 9, 1997 minutes will be reviewed at the next meeting.

#### C. Officers and Committee Report

1. Chairman Siniscalchi reported that he wants increased activity among the commission members.

Mr. Sipperly reported that at the last meeting Jane Brawerman mentioned that she wanted support for the Mattabasset River Watershed Association to change the name from Sebeth River to Mattabasset River. The Conservation Commission endorsed this at the last meeting and Mr. Sipperly submitted a memo to the Mayor and a resolution on behalf of the Conservation Commission. Mr. Sipperly and Barbara Wilson attended the November 3rd City Council Meeting and answered several questions. The City Council voted unanimously to accept the formal name change and approved the resolution.

#### The Ridge

4. City Commission Liaisons - Earle Roberts is not present.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the Newfield Street Golf Course.

5. Park Liaison Committee - No action

6. CACIWC - The annual dinner was very well attended.

7. Mattabasset River Watershed Association

J. Brawerman reported that a lecture on Purple loofestribe will be November 20, 1997 in Berlin.

#### E. New Business

##### Newfield Street Corridor Study

1. Mattabasset River name change was already discussed.

2. The memo from Bill Warner was received and reviewed.

A lengthy discussion ensued

J. Brawerman's Committee will lead this review and Ellen Lukens volunteered to assist.

Also L. Tunderman, J. Beatty, M. DeRosier and Katchen Coley also expressed interest in assisting this study.

The members felt that not enough time is available and will ask staff to seek more time in which to conduct their investigation.

#### F. Correspondence

##### 1. Lecture on Purple Loofestribe

Lecture Program, November 20, 1997 - Berlin - Peck Library

#### G. Public Forum

Ken Humphrey commented on techniques for growing coffee shade trees.

J. Brawerman stated that maybe an Environmental Review Team should study the environmental concerns along the corridor.

#### Newfield Street

J. Beatty and K. Humphrey are very concerned with privatizing of park and recreational services and management of the open space parcels.

Earle Roberts seconded by John Czuba, Jr. made a motion to move to agenda item E. 1. All were in favor.

##### 1. Reimbursement for open space assessment expenses.

The Mayor and Alan Sinsicalchi discussed re-consideration of reimbursing Mr. Marino for the Phase II environmental assessment. Discussed whether the money would come from the Open Space Bond Fund. The Mayor will have the City Attorney look into legality of using bond funds for reimbursement.

Katchen Coley seconded by James Fortuna made a move to reconsider the question. All were in favor.

Earle Roberts seconded by Marty Knight made a motion to recommend to The Mayor and the Council that Mr. Marino be reimbursed for the site testing costs.

Len Tundermann reiterated his concerns with the city getting nothing in return and that this assessment would have to be done anyhow for a land transfer.

All were in favor with Len Tundermann opposed, and Alan Siniscalchi and Jane Brawerman abstaining.

Return to regular agenda

## B. Minutes

1. James Fortuna seconded by Martin Knight made a motion to approve the October 10, 1996 Minutes as amended.

Pg. 2 change report to reported

and change after that “although this has been raised as an issue, the US Supreme Court has upheld the constitutionality of forfeiture laws.”

Pg. 3 include “For the reasons” as part of the motion  
Re: reimbursement

pg. 3 Len Tundermann parag. - delete Park & Recreation and add Mayor

All were in favor with Daniel Filer and Earle Roberts abstaining

## 2. Minutes

October 21, 1996

Katchen Coley seconded by Earle Roberts made a motion to accept into the record. All were in favor of those present.

Earle Roberts seconded by Kenneth Humphrey made a motion to move to item E3 & E2. All were in favor.

E. 3. Bruce Spaman presented the proposal for timber harvesting on Guida Farms Conservation Area. The proposed plan will thin the forest by removing the misshapen, excess competing trees and leave the higher quality trees. A diversity of tree species will be retained. It was suggested that VoAG be invited to observe the marking process.

Bruce Spaman will proceed with an inventory of harvest area. He will mark and tally the trees and prepare a bid.

Alan Siniscalchi asked Bruce Spaman to prepare a revised plan with goals and objectives and more details on work involved.

E. 2. Earle Roberts seconded by Kenneth Humphrey made a motion to adopt 1997 schedule. All were in favor, with Katchen Coley abstaining.

Earle Roberts seconded by Len Tundermann made a motion to move to D5. All were in favor.

#### D. 5. Traprock Ridgetop Workshop

Len Tundermann seconded by Katchen Coley made a motion to endorse workshop and sponsor the workshops with \$50.00 from the Conservation Commission budget. All were in favor.

#### C. 1. Officer's Reports

Alan Sinsicalchi said that he will meet with the Mayor on Open Space jurisdiction issues.

Alan Siniscalchi left at 9:25 pm. Earle Roberts assumed the Chair.

Linda Bowers reported on the Planning & Zoning Meeting - Nov. 20th presentation on marketing for Downtown.

Earle Roberts had no Officers Report

2. Open Space Preservation - Linda Bowers reported on responses to letters sent to properties offered for open space. It was agreed to meet on November 21, 1996 at 5:00 p.m.

3. Natural Resource Inventory - No report

4. City Commissions Liaison - Earle Roberts reported on the meeting and field visit of Tricon property. Earle Roberts raised the issue of applicability of state watershed management guidelines.

Len Tundermann seconded by Martin Knight made a motion to authorize City Commissions to make comments to Planning & Zoning re: Tricon property. All were in favor with James Fortuna abstaining.

5. Park Liaison Committee - No report

6. CACIWC - No report

7. Mattabasset Watershed

Next meeting will be on December 3, 1996

Old Business

1. Open Space Trust - Earle Roberts will be working on this issue

2. Conservation Commission Handbook

Kenneth Humphrey seconded by Martin Knight made a motion to postpone. All were in favor.

3. Destruction of Lamentation Mountain trails - No report. A Police Dept. Representative should be invited to a future meeting.

4. Tynan Park Barn - No report

F. Correspondence - No report

G. No one present

H. Member Forum

Katchen Coley - David Leff, of DEP reports that year 2000 Plan for State will soon be discussed with public hearings. There will be a Land Use Section with emphasis on planning on a watershed basis and Traprock Ridge protection.

Kenneth Humphrey reported that Newfield Meadows citizens group has been making progress on an open space management plan and educational projects.

Marty Knight reported that on April 1, 1997 Great Strides will be open at Ray Daniels farm.

I. Adjournment

Agreed on adjournment at 10:30 p.m.