

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

MINUTES

PRESENT

S. Stoane
J. Fortuna
D. O'Brien
J. Rankin
L. Tundermann
L. Holder
K. Coley
J. Brawerman
M. Ennis @ 7:30
N. Kiniry @ 8:20

ABSENT

H. Reid
E. Lukens

OTHERS PRESENT

A. Call to Order

1. Roll Call

Sheila Stoane, Chair called the meeting to order in Room 208, at the Municipal Building. The roll was called and a quorum was determined.

B. Review of Minutes – Very confusing. Gerry, Len and Dave never received them.

The minutes were full of erroneous words and confused sentences and they were tabled to be revised at the next meeting.

C. 1.) POCD – William Warner plans to summarize chapters and the Planning and Zoning Commission will vote on the summaries. Questioned whether or not this is legal. Sheila Stoane will follow up on this with Bill Warner.

2.) Mattabasset Management Plan – stakeholder steering committee will be at City Hall next month – Jan. 30th hoping Middletown representatives will be able to attend. Our reps are Nancy Kiniry and David O'Brien.

3.) PR – Conservation Corner – Nancy Kiniry and Michael Ennis are talking to the Press and the Chronicle about articles especially the one on our looking for property to buy. Michael and Nancy will continue this work. Michael will start off with an article on:

- 1) history & role of Commission on open space acquisition
- 2) bonding money has been approved 3:1

3) looking for property owners who wish to sell to the City of Middletown

Jane Brawerman wrote one article on water quality

Katchen Coley wrote on invasive species

Dave O'Brien did a Farm Report

Gerald Rankin wrote 2 articles as well

4) Farm Report – It was suggested to add in types of farming and PDR farms. Could historical society help us with some of this?

Midstate Regional Planning Agency might be able to help us with their aerial photos

Dave O'Brien and Jane Brawerman will follow up on this.

This will be tabled until the next meeting for further discussion.

Agriculture Department may be split – Consumer Protection
DEP

There may be grave repercussions for Farmland Preservation

DEP may have bonding problems and may lose conservation people

With Spring round may be last or maybe just one more round of open space matching funds.

Proposed Moratorium

The Middletown Conservation Commission wholeheartedly supports the moratorium in principle.

We look forward to using our current information and having proactive, ongoing role in the identification of possible open space acquisition during and following the moratorium period. We support the process of finding creative zoning solutions to the City's.

Should we use the Trust for Public Land in negotiations again?

Also ask Jim Sipperly for the most recent list of properties available to the city, current growth rate and hope to contribute our ideas as well.

Motion: To approve the letter by Katchen Coley

Seconded by Michael Ennis

Passed 9-0, with no abstentions

5.) Jane Brawerman will talk to Chris Joyell about the DEP application for the sewer on River Road and email the rest of the commission.

6.) Open Space Committee: Katchen Coley, Liz Holder, Sheila Stoane, Len Tundermann and Michael Ennis. Ellen Lukens is the Chairperson and they will be meeting sometime in the near future.

Site Plans Review Committee – Nancy Kiniry, Jane Brawerman, and Michael Ennis will look at these plans further.

George Street – Intensive Development

No Open Space – wetlands excepted

Erosion & Sedimentation concern & drainage down toward George Street.

Ask Middlesex Council of Soil and Water Conservation District to do an independent review of this to be reviewed by committee

Clearview – Will be pursued by the committee

2 alternate positions are now open

Norm Zimmer will respond by 1/3

Meetings 2nd Thursdays at 7:00

File with the Town Clerk

Adjourned at 9:09