

**Minutes of the
The Conservation Commission Meeting – City of Milford
Tuesday, January 15, 2019– 6 p.m.
Conference Room C**

- 1. Call to Order/Roll Call - The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.**
Members Present:, Janet McAllister, Howard Haberman, Ryan Keeler, Carolyn Alling, Diana Bytell, Gayle Hoffman, Keith Dunn and Gregg Hammond
Absent: Rebecca Smith
Staff Liaison – Steve Johnson, Open Space & Natural Resource Agent
- 2. Introductions and Welcome to New Commissioners** – everyone introduced themselves and welcomed Gregg Hammond. Johnson explained that Oden Seaholm decided to not renew his position. Johnson thanked him for his many years of service.
- 3. Election of Chair and Vice Chair**
 - a) Chair** – Howard Haberman motioned for Janet McAllister to continue in this position. Keith Dunn seconded, No discussion, motion approved 7:0.
 - b) Vice Chair** – Carolyn Alling motioned for Howard Haberman to continue in this position. Diana Bytell seconded, No discussion, motion approved 7:0.
- 4. Public Comments** - Claire Casey, 86 Governors Ave., Milford - Claire feels strongly in the value of the Conservation Commission. She will be attending meetings to stay informed on the issues and stay connected with the people.
- 5. Minutes**
 - a)** November 20, 2018 Meeting- Howard Haberman motioned to approve the minutes, Keith Dunn seconded. No discussion, motion approved 7:0.
- 6. New Business**
 - a) Roles and Responsibilities of the Conservation Commission** – Johnson provided an overview of the Commission. McAllister provided a hand-out describing the duties as well as the enabling CGS Sec. 7-131a to all of the commissioners.
 - b) CT Trails Day** – Johnson asked commissioners to consider locations as well as assisting as a hiking guide for the CT Forest & Parks CT Trails Day event, www.ctwoodlands.org . This will take place the first Saturday in June 1. Typically, Milford has sponsored a morning hike at Mondo Ponds and an afternoon hike at the Solomon property.
- 7. Unfinished Business Updates**

Johnson reviewed the following updates on the Walnut Beach construction project.

 - a)** Eco-Collaboration-Ryan Keeler, Gayle Hoffman and Diana Bytell drafted a Milford Conservation Commission Community Survey. The survey was reviewed and commissioners offered suggestions on minor edits. Gayle Hoffman will update the survey. Johnson will provide a list of the past participants of the Eco-Collaboration meeting to the committee. This list will be reviewed and expanded at the next meeting.
 - b)** Recycling Task Force – The next meeting will be Thursday, 1/17 at 7 pm. Representative Kim Rose will attend and present about the single use plastic initiative.

- c) 701 North Street – Johnson didn't have a proposed plot plan. He will work with Chris Saley and Mayor Blake to get a proposal for the commission to be able to review and comment. Janet gave a copy of the Commission's Open Space recommendations for the approximate 3 acre orchard area, which were submitted to the mayor, to new commissioner Gregg Hammond . The commission recommended this area be dedicated as passive use open space with features- such as walking trails, native plantings, benches. Given the amount of open space funds involved, it is imperative the Conservation Commission has an active role during the planning process.
- d) Report on "Every Day is Earth Day" event – held on Saturday, at the Milford Library sponsored by the Milford Environmental Concerns Coalition, ECC and the Milford Library. Janet McAllister described the event and Johnson's facilitation after the Planet Earth, The Future, Living Together video was shown.
- e) Liaison Reports –Commission Liaisons – the following liaisons were identified: (no updates) Janet McAllister reviewed the list and asked for all commissioner suggestions on any group they are interested in following. Claire Casey gave a brief update about the proposed Board of Education Budget.
 - a) Board of Alderman
 - b) Open Space Advisory Committee (inactive) Alling & Johnson
 - c) Milford Land Conservation Trust – Johnson
 - d) P&Z –Haberman
 - e) Inland Wetlands Agency – McAllister
 - f) Flood Control and Erosion Board – Johnson
 - g) Tree Commission – Dunn
 - h) Harbor Management – Johnson
 - i) Park, Beach and Recreation - McAllister
 - j) Board of Education – Casey
 - k) Economic & Community Development – Keeler
 - l) Sustainable CT, Milford – Johnson

8. Motion to adjourn by Howard Haberman at 7:19 p.m. Seconded by Keith Dunn, there was no discussion. Passed 7:0

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Johnson

Open Space and Natural Resource Agent

These minutes have not been accepted or approved.