

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
The Conservation Commission
City of Milford
March 17, 2009**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call – Bill Poutray, Danielle Bercury, Oden Seaholm, Carolyn Greer, Maureen Mauro, Vincent Piselli, Dan Drago and guests Mike DeGrego and Keith Dunn.
2. Bill welcomed Keith Dunn, a local Milford farmer, who is planning to join the Milford Conservation Commission.
3. The minutes from the February meeting were reviewed and accepted unanimously.
4. Old Business
 - a) Conservation Commission Office – Mike DeGrego went though the office in November and did an overview. Last month, he spent a few hours taking inventory and put together a diagram of the office as it is currently set up. Mike handed out the diagram to everyone and elaborated on the contents of each area. He feels the starting point of the office is area #4 on the diagram which contains the minutes from each meeting in the 1980's in alphabetical order along with maps of each project. He said it would make sense to start from there and continue into the 1990's and beyond with information that was located in other sections of the office. He also found boxes of old pamphlets, office supplies and old maps. Everyone agreed they would like to be able to purchase a map rack for the office to make the maps easily accessible. Everyone agreed that they will begin meeting a half hour prior to each scheduled meeting to begin working on reorganizing the office.
 - b) Open Space Fund – Carolyn Greer spoke to one of the aldermen about this fund. He told Carolyn part of this fund was used for the purchase of the Cadley Farm. She will look further into this. Bill mentioned that a project at the foot of Gulf Street, right on the water, was discussed at the last Planning and Zoning meeting. He said that arrangements had been made to pay a fee to the open space fund in lieu of part of the project being on open space. Bill was unaware of this project since the Conservation Commission did not receive plans for this project. He will speak to David Sulkis regarding this.

b) Open Space Fund (Cont'd)

Vincent asked if the Conservation Commission can make a proposal to create a sub-account for an open space maintenance fund. Bill said The Conservation Commission can compose a letter requesting this. Bill said there is a stipulation that states some of the golf fees from The Orchards golf course are supposed to be set aside for the maintenance of open space, but he said the wording is vague on this. Carolyn Greer and Danielle Bercury agreed to look into this stipulation further.

c) Milford Walkers – Dan Drago has been working with Barbara Milton to walk though and evaluate different open space areas in Milford. They try to walk though a different area each week and invited the members to join them. The group is deciding whether Saturday or Sunday works better for everyone. Dan said on their walk through Beaver Brook, he noticed sites set up by the homeless, areas that were littered and in need of clean up. He will bring his camera to the next walk. A suggestion was made that once the weather gets warmer, the Conservation Commission members might be willing to get together prior to a meeting and walk though some areas. Danielle had an opportunity to speak with Letty Malone who suggested having a few walks of different areas such as Silver Sands sponsored by the Conservation Commission. An expert on a particular aspect of the area was suggested such as Oden Seaholm discussing the birds in that particular area. A suggestion was made to invite people living in the neighborhood to attend the walk and also at one point invite Jill Dion from the Milford newspaper to attend a walk though to compile information for an article in the paper. Dan volunteered to keep track by computer the information compiled from each walk. Maureen suggested adding a link to the Conservation Commission website, i.e., “get to know your open space”. Bill said he will discuss this with the IT person for the City of Milford.

d) The members spent part of the meeting identifying Milford Land Trust properties on the laminated maps. Some of the properties they were looking at were the Solomon property, Walker Pond, Wampus Pond, Great River, Wilcox Park and Silver Sands. A question came up as to whether there is any type of sign posted at these areas. A suggestion was made that some of these areas might be a good project for local businesses to adopt an area for clean up and make sure there are proper signs posted.

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 21st at 7:30 p.m. The members will meet in the Conservation Commission office at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Berberich

Minutes not approved by the Commission

