**Minutes of the**

**The Conservation Commission Meeting – City of Milford**

**Tuesday, April 16, 2019– 6 p.m.**

**Conference Room C**

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call - The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Janet McAllister, Howard Haberman, Ryan Keeler, Gayle Hoffman, Gregg Hammond Carolyn Alling, Diana Bytell

**Absent**: Keith Dunn, and Rebecca Smith

**Staff Liaison –** SteveJohnson, Open Space & Natural Resource Agent.

**Public Comments -** None

1. **Minutes March 19, 2019 –** Motion to approve as amended by Diana Bytell and seconded by Gayle Hoffman. Motion approved 7:0
2. **New Business:**
	1. Eisenhower / Foote Field parking and driveway – Johnson reviewed project that had not been shared with Conservation Commission. Discussion around the Commission’s need to be a voice in the review and recommendations on all projects involving open space in Milford. Habitat assessment, restoration, and site visit will take place Thursday, 4/25/19 at 6 pm to review buffer areas around the project and recommendations.
	2. Solomon Woods – Enhanced parking area – Johnson shared the past plans to create parking for approx 18-19 vehicles once the garage and house are demolished. Plan was approved by IWA. Johnson will forward sketch shared with IWA in March. Plans include stormwater vegetated swale, fencing and or rocks.
	3. Long Island Sound Blue Plan – Regional Meeting. Wed. June 5, 2019 – Johnson requested members to save the date, spread the word and attend.
3. **Unfinished Business Updates**
	1. **701 North Street –** Janet McAllister provided an update on the meeting with City Attorney, Assistant Mayor, Howard Haberman, and Steve Johnson. Reviewed Janet’s draft revision(2) on the past Conservation Commission challenges and the verbal commitment by the City to Reimburse open space funds used for the 701 North St. acquisition Additionally, the Commission will work with the City Attorney to outline draft language for a resolution that will:
		1. Clarify the role of the Conservation Commission,
		2. Clarify the classification of open space in Milford, and;
		3. Provide a clearer process for including interested community members, including the Conservation Commission, in the conversation where decisions about development projects on open spaces are being made.

Janet McAllister, Howard Haberman, Carolyn Alling and Steve Johnson will meet to review and draft a document for the City’s review, approval, with the Commission to follow with a brief presentation to the Board of Alderman.

* 1. **Eco-Collaboration-** Gayle Hoffman will review the past distribution group list including Trout Unlimited. Johnson to review further with his records and forward information to Gayle Hoffman for final distribution list. Ryan Keller will develop electronic survey and will send test link out to Commissioners.
	2. **Walnut Beach - Berm** – Johnson updated the proposed native plantings of over 200 trees and shrubs at Walnut Beach plus native plant gardens at the new Eisenhower Dog Park. Funding has been confirmed for both project plantings. Coordination of preparation, delivery, plantings, and maintenance to be worked out.
	3. **Recycling Task Force –** Update by Diana Bytell. Next meeting 4/18/19. Last meeting included presentations:
		1. by J.LAW AP environmental students & their work with Senator Maroney on a Styrofoam bill to provide compostable food trays in place of non-recyclable Styrofoam trays.
		2. Co-Chair, Jeremy Grant is exploring recycling and no litter signs with possible artistic design help.
			1. Beach areas and other natural open space areas can benefit from reduced litter.
	4. **CT Trails Day** – Johnson will lead two Milford hikes at Mondo Ponds – 10am and Solomon Woods at 1 pm. Sat. June 1s**t.** Help from Commissioners to assist with the hikes is appreciated.
	5. Liaison Reports –Commission Liaisons – the following liaisons were identified:
1. Board of Alderman
2. Open Space Advisory Committee (inactive) Alling & Johnson
3. Milford Land Conservation Trust – Johnson
4. P&Z –Haberman – 990 Naugatuck Ave zone change was denied at the last P&Z Meeting.
5. Inland Wetlands Agency – McAllister
6. Flood Control and Erosion Board – Johnson
7. Tree Commission – Dunn
8. Harbor Management – Johnson
9. Park, Beach and Recreation - McAllister
10. Board of Education – Casey
11. Economic & Community Development – Keeler
12. Sustainable CT, Milford – Johnson
13. **Motion to adjourn** by Howard Haberman at 7:25 p.m., Seconded by Gayle Hoffman 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.