

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
The Conservation Commission – City of Milford
April 20, 2010**

- 1. Call to Order/Roll Call** – Bill Poutray, Kathy Kobishyn, Carol Dunn, Maureen Mauro, Oden Seaholm and Dan Drago.
- 2. Public Comments** – No public comments.
- 3. Review Minutes** – The minutes from the March meeting were reviewed and accepted unanimously.
- 4. Budgets & Balances** – There is \$80.00 left in the training budget and \$45.00 remaining in the membership budget. The new budget will be in effect on July 1, 2010 and remaining balances do not carry over.
- 5. Unfinished Business**
 - a) Conservation Awards** – Kathy Kobishyn had researched the cost of printing copies on a three-fold brochure with a color front at Staples. It has been decided that the nomination process will be done entirely online. Kathy will ask Carolyn to forward the documents for this project to Bill as a word document so he can condense and complete the brochure. Maureen asked Kathy to make sure the deadline date is changed since it now says the date is May 1st. The launch of this project is slated for June with the awards to be handed out sometime in the Fall.
 - b) Oronoque Road Variance Petition** – No progress on this.
 - c) Milford Open Space Survey** – Bill would like to dedicate the entire May meeting to discuss in greater detail the raw results of the open space survey. Letty Malone may attend the meeting to offer her input. One aspect of the survey is that the public is not aware of some of the open space properties in the city of Milford. It also showed that a large number of people in Milford place a high priority on maintenance/upkeep of existing open space. Bill suggests that the commission work toward a public/private partnership to work together to maintain and upgrade Milford's open space.

Maureen also suggested putting together a workshop in order to educate the public on open space statistical information. She mentioned a workshop she had attended at the CACIWC annual meeting that covered this material. This workshop was presented by the Northeast Director of Land Trust Alliance. She will contact the people responsible for this workshop and try to obtain the slides and statistics they used.

- c) **Milford Open Space Survey (Cont'd)** - It was suggested this might be a good workshop for city employees, but it was agreed it would be very difficult to have them attend during their work hours. An alternative idea was suggested this could be a one hour seminar on a Saturday on a volunteer basis for the public as well as city employees. The Conservation Commission could circulate the information to all city department heads regarding the seminar as well as inviting the public. Maureen, Dan Drago and Kathy Kobishyn will work together as a sub-committee to develop this idea further.
- c) **Open Space Walks Schedule** – Dan Drago will put together a list of walks and try to get volunteers to lead the walks. He said during the walks, it would be a good idea to identify specific projects within the particular spaces. A suggestion was made that the walks should be scheduled for once a month on Sunday afternoons. If it rains, the walk could be scheduled for the following week. The five walks that should definitely be scheduled are Eisenhower Park, Mondo Ponds, Wilcox Park, Beaver Brook and the Solomon property.

6. New Business

- a) **Request for Plans from Planning Director** – Bill spoke to Susan Shaw about the Conservation Commission and acquiring plans from Planning and Zoning. It was suggested that a group from the Conservation Commission get together to meet with David Sulkis regarding this. Bill asked everyone to email him their convenient times for a meeting that he felt should last approximately 45 minutes.
- b) **Earth Day** – Scheduled for Saturday, April 24th.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 18, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Berberich
Minutes not approved by the Commission