

**Minutes of the
Conservation Commission – City of Milford
Tuesday, May 16, 2017 – 6 p.m.
Parsons Conference Room A, Parson's Government Center**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call - The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Members Present: Janet McAllister, Dan Drago, Claire Casey, Ryan Keeler, and Howard Haberman

Absent: Keith Dunn, Jerry Loiselle, Carolyn Alling, and Oden Seaholm

Staff Liaison – Steve Johnson, Open Space & Natural Resource Agent

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comments – No comments

4. Minutes – April 18, 2017. Claire Casey motioned to amend the Agenda to include the minutes for the Special Site Walk - The Preserve At Beaverbrook- May 2, 2017. Howard Haberman seconded the motion. The April 18th minutes included an incorrect sentence, New Business, B2 that should be deleted as well as a blank B1. The motion to accept the minutes of April 18, 2017 as corrected and May 2, 2017 was passed 5:0.

5. New Business

- a) Earth Day - various service project updates.
- b) Saturday, June 3rd – Milford's dedication of the Solomon Trails for the CT Trails Day event will be re-scheduled in September to allow time for the demolition of the garage and house. A date will be determined. The CT Trails Day hike will continue at the Solomon Property as planned.

6. Unfinished Business Updates

- a) The Preserve at Beaverbrook - 553 West Avenue. Claire Casey motioned to accept the following recommendation for The Preserve at Beaverbrook application, Howard Haberman seconded the motion.

The Milford Conservation Commission recommends for the above referenced P&Z application that:

- 1. The boundaries of the conservation areas on the property established through these easements: Declaration of Conservation Restriction dated 4/26/2001 and First Amendment to and Restatement of the Grant of Conservation and Trail Easement, dated 4/26/2001, are physically delineated and posted with signage before any development activities commence, and that said signage is permanently maintained .
- 2. All development activities and site disturbances, including the access roadway, remain outside of the conservation easement areas and do not adversely impact these areas.

Discussion of the proposed motion was offered by commissioners. A motion to amend the original motion of the recommendations to include a preface was made by Ryan Keeler and seconded by Howard Haberman. The preface includes the following statement:

The Milford Conservation Commission has concerns about the loss of natural resources and special wildlife habitat that will result from this proposed development. The Commission considers it an unfortunate situation that the City does not have the ability to confine the development to a level of intensity that would be more protective of Milford's declining forest habitats. Understanding the specifics of this 8-30g application, the commission makes the following recommendations.

- i. The boundaries of the conservation areas on the property established through these easements: Declaration of Conservation Restriction dated 4/26/2001 and First Amendment to and Restatement of the Grant of Conservation and Trail Easement, dated 4/26/2001, are physically delineated and posted with signage before any development activities commence, and that said signage is permanently maintained .
- ii. All development activities and site disturbances, including the access roadway, remain outside of the conservation easement areas and do not adversely impact these areas.

The amended motion was accepted 5:0.

- b) 553 West Avenue, Beaver Brook Boardwalk project - Johnson updated commissioners on the efforts to re-bidding the demolition, site preparation and construction activities.
 - c) 701 North Street - discussion on the next steps. Discussion about organizing a sub-committee at the next regular meeting in June to further recommendations.
 - d) Bluebird box project – discussion and update on boxes installed.
 - e) Open Space Monitoring Checklist – Janet has edited the on-line form to include some drop down options. Discussion on the written form and distribution. Dan Drago has received approval for the forms to be distributed at the Milford Library. Claire Casey will work with Dan to create a drop-off comment box. Forms can also be dropped at the Open Space Office, Room 123 at Parsons. Other means of promotion were discussed.
 - f) Application Development Checklist – Will use for future site visit.
 - g) Commissioner Liaisons Updates to Boards and Commissions: P&Z meeting tonight regards to the proposed Boston Post Road hotel, apartments and commercial space will take place at City Hall starting at 7:30 p.m.
7. Motion to Adjourn was made by Dan Drago and seconded by Claire Casey at 7:22 p.m. Motion passed 5:0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Johnson

Open Space and Natural Resource Agent.

These minutes have not been accepted or approved.