

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
The Conservation Commission – City of Milford
June 19, 2012**

- 1. Call to Order/Roll Call** – Claire Casey, Steve Johnson, Bill Poutray, Dan Drago, Maureen Mauro and Jerry Loiselle.
- 2. Public Comment** – No public comment.
- 3. Review Minutes** – The minutes were reviewed and accepted unanimously.
- 4. Plan Review** – Bill spoke about plans for Crunch Fitness which is taking over the Saturn dealership on the Boston Post Road. Bill sent a “no comments” letter.
- 5. Unfinished Business:**
 - a. Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD)

Steve Johnson handed out a draft of Open Space Definition and Objectives to all the commission members. He will submit this to Mayor Blake for his review and asked the commission members for any suggestions and/or comments. The draft included the following:

 1. Open Space Definition – Open space lands are lands deemed worthy of protection from development or its adverse impacts. Open Space lands can be publicly owned (City, State or Federal) or privately owned. They can be further defined by the following three qualities:
 - a. What is the level of protection they have from future development, if any;
 - b. What functional characteristics are these lands valued for, and;
 - c. What is the intended public access and use of the open space property
 2. Open Space Protective Categories – The four categories are:
 - a. Perceived Open Space
 - b. Protected Open Space
 - c. Unprotected Open Space
 - d. Managed Open Space
 3. Open Space Functional Characteristics – The six categories are:
 - a. Natural Resource Protection
 - b. Protection of Public Health and Safety
 - c. Outdoor Recreation
 - d. Promotion and Maintenance of Community Character
 - e. Protection of Historic or Archaeological Sites
 - f. Resources Management
 4. Public Access and usage which includes active and passive recreation. This category needs some discussion regarding mountain biking and horseback riding and if they are deemed active recreation. Steve has been using some of the wording from the Fairfield and Shelton sites. He will be meeting with a representative from Redding to discuss how they handle their open space. Jerry raised a question about the right-of-way for utility companies.

5. **Unfinished Business** (Cont'd)

Steve asked all the commission to look over the Open Space Definition and Objectives prior to the next meeting. Steve has run the language by Emmeline Harrigan, Assistant City Planner, unofficially. Emmeline had some questions, but was mostly supportive of this language.

b. Timeline Updates:

1. Community Outreach Meetings - There are three meetings scheduled for the last week of June:
 - a) Meeting #1 will be held at the Milford Public Library at 6 p.m. on June 25th to discuss the Cherry Street Corridor and Fowler Field.
 - b) Meeting #2 will be held at the Milford Public Library at 6 p.m. on June 27th to discuss Shoreline Zoning.
 - c) Meeting #3 will be held at the Margaret Egan Center at 6 p.m. on June 28th to discuss Walnut Beach Area Improvements.

The resulting information from these meetings will be presented to the Planning and Zoning Board at the July 17th public hearing. Comments from the Milford Conservation Commission are needed by July.

Emmeline Harrigan needs to have everything in order to present to the Zoning Board in August and then to the Board of Alderman in September.

c. Motorized Vehicles in Open Space updates – A letter was sent out from the city attorney regarding ATV use near Eisenhower Park and Platt Lane. The city attorney is also working on a letter regarding the Solomon property. Besides the letters, more signage and blocking access to certain areas needs to be addressed.

d. Natural Resource Manager – Bill Poutray spoke to Jeanne Cervin regarding funding a position. She said there may be money to pay for this in the Open Space Acquisition Fund. The question was also raised regarding a salary range for this person. Bill Poutray thought it would be useful to check with other communities with similar staff. Dan Drago asked about applying for grants once there is an existing position in place and if it should be one full-time person or two part-time people with possibly an intern to assist.

6. New Business

- a. Role of MCC with Applications to P & Z – Bill Poutray met with Jeanne Cervin regarding the function of the Milford Conservation Commission. Conservation Commission members can ask for clarification on plans for view from our city planners, but cannot have any prior discussion with members of P & Z. They also cannot speak to other boards who will rule on plans. They can go to the Planning office and speak to David Sulkis and Emmeline Harrigan and ask questions. Ms Cervin advised the Commission that completed responses should be e-mailed to:
 1. Applicant
 2. Phyllis Leggett, P & Z Board Clerk
 3. City Planner, David Sulkis
 4. Jeanne Cervin, P & Z Liaison to MCC
- b. UConn's CLEAR Presentation, Low Impact Development - Steve and Bill Poutray spoke about this presentation which took place on Monday, June 18th.
- c. Bill said there was a meeting scheduled for the following day regarding the Beaver Brook project and the summer jobs program. He mentioned the fact that a recent fire in the area destroyed part of the boardwalk which may delay the program.
- d. Maureen Mauro met with Kathy Alagno from the Chamber of Commerce regarding the Green Business Council. Maureen will put together paperwork for this with a mission statement.
- e. Maureen spoke to Jeanne Cervin who had been in discussion with Barbara Milton about having the environmental groups in Milford meet together in the future, possibly at Milford Library on a bi-annual basis. Bill Poutray said he attended a function similar to this at Ann Berman's house a few years ago and it was helpful to him. Claire Casey offered to help Maureen Mauro organize this.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Berberich

Minutes not approved by the Commission

