

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
The Conservation Commission – City of Milford
February 15, 2011**

- 1. Roll Call** – Bill Poutray, Carol Dunn, Carolyn Greer, Oden Seaholm, Maureen Mauro, Keith Dunn, Kathy Kobishyn and Dan Drago.
- 2. Public Comment** – No public comments.
- 3. Review Minutes** – The minutes from the November 2010 meeting were reviewed and accepted unanimously.
- 4. Unfinished Business**
 - a) Conservation Awards – Bill reported that the selected recipients have received letters. He has received some responses. Bill will follow up with all the recipients to see if they will be attending the ceremony or sending someone in their place. The award ceremony is scheduled to take place during the Board of Alderman meeting on Monday, March 7th at 7:30 p.m. There are a few more details to clear with Mayor Richetelli before the awards ceremony. There is a meeting scheduled on February 24th with the Conservation Awards committee and Mayor Richetelli. Maureen showed everyone a sample of the award. Kathy Kobishyn will bring a camera to the ceremony to get some pictures to send to the newspapers.
 - b) Plan of Conservation & Development – Bill went over the review process regarding the plan. He reported that the draft review by Planning and Zoning is taking place in February, March and April with the draft going to the Board in Alderman for review in April and May. The final plan is not adopted until August 2011. Bill said he would like to see language included in the plan regarding a proposal to mandate set-asides. He also feels there should be stronger language in the plan about preserving open space and the possibility of hiring a conservation officer/land manager in Milford.

Bill and Keith Dunn attended the Mayor's Open Space Committee Meeting last week which was also attended by farm bureau members. They were working on "right to farm" language which will be incorporated into the Plan of Conservation and Development. During this meeting, a suggestion was made to host a "Farm Awareness Day" in Milford.

Maureen passed around a document from Vincent Piselli called the "Open Space Management Proposal" which was developed by himself, Milford ECC, Alderman Dan German and the Milford Earth Day Committee.

A project started this week spearheaded by Barbara Milton and Inlands and Wetlands to develop a greenway buffer from Gulf Pond to the Orange town line.

4. **Unfinished Business**

- b) Plan of Conservation & Development (Cont'd)
Bill would like a sub-committee meeting in order to select three items on the list Bill read from the Plan of Conservation and Development to address. He will email the sub-committee to come up with an agreed upon date and time.

5. **New Business**

- a) NOAA Dredging – Carol followed up with the DEP regarding the project on Rogers Avenue to remove silt in the intake valves by the Army Corps of Engineers. It was reported that 16 to 17 cubic yards of sediment were removed and sent to an upland site in Long Island. This sediment was originally supposed to go to a farm on Wheelers Farm Road. Unfortunately the condition of the sediment was very poor and not suitable for the farm.
- b) New DPLU Organization – Carol suggested setting up a meeting with Jocelyn Mathiasen, the new Director of Department of Permitting and Land Use, Inlands & Wetlands, Building and Planning & Zoning, and some members of the Conservation Commission to clarify the process regarding plans as well as other subjects. Bill asked Carol to contact Jocelyn and see if she would be interested in meeting.

6. **Other Business**

- a) Carol would like to organize a walk at Gulf Beach and the Audubon in the Spring to observe the Osprey. She also reported that there will be a presentation at the Audubon on March 17th at 7 p.m. by Julie Victoria, a Naturalist with the DEP regarding the Osprey. Carol will ask Julie at this presentation about the piping plovers and if the work on the Silver Sands/Walnut Beach boardwalk should stop when they are present.
- b) Carol made the suggestion to send holiday cards to the city departments from the Milford Conservation Commission. Everyone agreed this was a great idea and Carol said she would take care of it.
- c) Dan Drago reported that the grant for the Mondo Ponds clean up will be available again this year through The Deluca Foundation.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 15, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Berberich

Minutes not approved by the Commission