

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
The Conservation Commission – City of Milford
April 17, 2012**

- 1. Call to Order/Roll Call** – Bill Poutray, Maureen Mauro, Dan Drago, Oden Seaholm, Jerry Loiselle and Claire Casey.
- 2. Public Comment** – No public comments.
- 3. Review Minutes** – The minutes were reviewed and accepted unanimously.
- 4. Unfinished Business**
 - a) Earth Day – Claire gave an overview of Earth Day. She set up a booth for the Conservation Commission; had a game for the children and handed out quite a few of the “Milford Favorite Walks, Water & Trails” books. Maureen thanked Claire for setting up the booth saying it was the first time the Conservation Commission had a presence at Earth Day. Maureen mentioned that she will be on the Earth Day committee for next year. Maureen also reported that 4,548 pieces of trash were picked up prior to Earth Day and thanked everyone who participated in this project. She thought that this could be a citywide project beginning next Spring prior to Earth Day with a goal of picking up possibly 25,000 pieces of trash. Jerry thought it might be a good project for the schools to get involved with. Claire suggested it might be a great idea to have the schools near open space areas do a trash pick up once a month. A suggestion was also made to put out a press release regarding the trash pick up encouraging the community with basic guidelines. Maureen mentioned she could also put this into the Milford Patch. Bill mentioned a Walnut Beach clean-up organized by Mackenzie Powers, a young girl who has been organizing this clean up for three or four years. The beach clean-up will take place on May 5th.
 - b) Solomon Property – Dan Drago did a walk through of the property with Steve Johnson and Bill Poutray. Claire, Oden, Maureen and Steve also did a walk through of the property.
 - c) Housatonic River Clean-up – This will take place on Saturday, April 28th from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The meeting places are the Birdseye Street Boat Ramp in Stratford and the Sunnyside Boat Ramp in Shelton. Claire said she will be attending with a group of students from her school to work on the clean-up.
 - d) POCD
 - Wepawaug restoration – Bill Poutray has submitted a letter regarding this for the Plan of Conservation and Development.

d) POCD (Cont'd)

- Land Manager – Dan Drago, Maureen Mauro and Steve Johnson have been working on this. Dan handed out an outline that they composed. Bill Poutray and Jerry Loiselle will work with the outline to condense it into a few paragraphs for the Plan of Conservation and Development. Bill asked the commission members to look at the outline quickly to see if they have any suggestions in order to submit this by June.
- Open Space protection against development – Bill said there are different levels of protection and non-protection for various pieces of open space within the city and feels there may be strong environmental and other reasons to increase the level of protection for some parcels. The Commission will recommend some language to this effect for inclusion in the POCD.

e) Beaverbrook Pilot Project – Bill Poutray spoke to Mayor Blake at Earth Day regarding this project. Mayor Blake said he was going to be speaking to Bishop Ramirez from Kingdom Life Church about this project. Kingdom Life is in the process of selling all 57 acres of Beaverbrook to Grillo Landscaping/Recycling which includes the 25 acres that is deeded to the city as a conservation easement. The mayor said that he wants to go ahead with this project and has spoken to Annalise Spaziano from The Academy about moving forward. There is \$220,000 in the Beaverbrook fund which will be available to pay high school students for this summer project. Annalise said this will be a multi-school; multi-disciplinary project.

f) Plans:

- 54 Wilson Street – Sub-division behind the police stations. Steve Johnson and Bill Poutray looked at the property and wrote a letter to P & Z saying they had no issues with the project except the fact that there was a lot of trash in the area. Jeanne Cervin spoke to Bill about this project.
- 475 New Haven Avenue – Michael Anthony's Restaurant wants to build a restaurant near the condos on the Indian River. Bill had no objections to the plans but would like to see a berm built to prevent sand or salt getting into the Indian River.
- 134 Old Gate Lane – Proposed new location for Pop's Restaurant.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Berberich

Minutes not approved by the Commission