

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
The Conservation Commission – City of Milford
June 21, 2011**

1. **Roll Call** – Bill Poutray, Dan Drago, Maureen Mauro-DeSanti, Carol Dunn, Oden Seaholm. Guests: Alderman Greg Smith, Alderman Bill Bevan, Rita Patton – Subway, Kevin Kane – Subway, Mike DeGrego, Inland Wetlands Commission.

Note: The location of the meeting was the parking lot at 336 Bic Drive (Subway Restaurant, Inc. facility). Change in venue was properly noticed. At the appointed meeting time, a quorum was not present so an official meeting was not convened. However the meeting did proceed on an informal basis.

2. **New Business** – The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the technology and benefits of the pervious concrete parking area installed at this Subway facility. Pervious concrete is a mix of small stones and an “adhesive” material that forms a porous but durable surface. It can be used in parking areas, sidewalks and other similar uses.

The main benefits are: *Disperses stormwater run-off without the cost of traditional storm drains. Stormwater passing through the material (about 18 inches deep) is filtered so that when it reaches the subsoil, it has been cleared of more than 90% of pollutants such as salt, ice-melter, oil, antifreeze, etc., and so greatly reduces pollution of groundwater. This also benefits any plants such as shrubs and trees in the vicinity because of improved delivery of water to the root systems. It should be noted that a wetland exists next to this parking lot. So the material also reduces stresses on that wetland.

Questions were raised about the cost/benefits of such a system. Subway has not yet been able to place an exact cost/savings figure on this according to Rita Patton of Subway; however, in general, the added material cost (over traditional asphalt) is offset significantly by the reduction or elimination of traditional stormwater management infrastructure such as storm drains, drywells, holding ponds, etc. and ongoing maintenance of these systems. The system does require the use of snow-plows with plastic blade edges to prevent undue damage, and does need to be cleaned periodically to prevent the surface from becoming clogged.

Alderman Bevan asked if there were any public projects where this might be a benefit. Bill Poutray said that he thought the new sidewalks or any future paving of parking lots at Walnut Beach might be appropriate, given proximity to Long Island Sound.

The group also visited the site of an adjacent parking area at Subway where a second parking lot is being installed using the same materials.

Additional notes:

- This material was used voluntarily by Subway and Bill acknowledged the City of Milford's appreciation for such voluntary environmental stewardship initiatives by both businesses and private citizens.
- The material was sourced from Beard, a local company located a short distance from Subway's facilities.
- Bill noted that he hopes that the City will include language encouraging the use of this and other innovative technologies and techniques in projects where paving is to be done, thus limiting the addition of impervious surfaces, and reducing pollution to our waterways, and reducing the load on our stormwater drain system.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Berberich

Minutes not approved by the Commission