

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
The Conservation Commission – City of Milford
July 19, 2011**

1. **Roll Call** – Bill Poutray, Maureen Mauro, Kathy Kobishyn and Dan Drago. A quorum was not present so an official meeting was not convened.
2. **Public Comment** – No public comments.
3. **Review Minutes** – The minutes from the May meeting were reviewed and accepted unanimously.
4. **Unfinished Business**
 - a) **Subway Meeting** – Everyone agreed that the meeting that took place in the Subway parking lot at 336 Bic Drive went very well. Aldermen Greg Smith and Bill Bevan were in attendance as well as Rita Patton and Kevin Kane from Subway. The meeting was held in the parking lot to discuss the technology and benefits of the pervious concrete parking area installed at this Subway facility and to recognize Subway for this work. The use of impervious surfaces is something that the Conservation Commission should weigh in on the Plan of Conservation and Development.
 - b) **Plan of Conservation & Development** – Bill received a letter from Susan Shaw and Greg Vetter of Planning and Zoning regarding notification of meetings with them to discuss the Plan of Conservation and Development. A few items Bill would like to discuss with Planning and Zoning is the condition and management of open space in Milford as well as storm water management. A concern was also raised about the regulations regarding rear lots of houses. Currently if a homeowner has a rear lot to their house that is an acre or larger, it can be sold and built on. Planning and Zoning is considering changing this regulation.

Bill has invited Emmeline Harrigan, the assistant city planner, to attend the September meeting and speak about the Plan of Conservation and Development. He asked all Conservation Commission members to read the plan prior to the September meeting. Maureen suggested having a study group to go over the plan prior to the meeting. Maureen will send out an email to Conservation Commission members to organize a study group.
 - c) **Gulf Beach Walk** – There was a very small turnout for the walk. The people who did come to the walk went to the Audubon with Carol Dunn and she did a presentation on the osprey.

- d) **Draft Letter to DEP Regarding Great River Sewage Permit** – Bill composed a draft of a letter to the DEP regarding a proposed renewal of a permit for Great River golf course to discharge more than 9,000 gallons per day of sewage into the Housatonic River. In the draft, Bill addressed three questions he has regarding this project. Bill will email the draft to all Conservation Commission members for their input.

5. New Business

- a) **New Plans from Planning and Zoning** – Bill, Carol and Maureen composed a letter to Jocelyn Matthiasen, head of Milford's Department of Planning and Land Use, regarding a request for The Conservation Commission to receive plans including subdivisions from Planning and Zoning. In the past, plans had been received, but lately the Conservation Commission has been omitted. Carol did obtain the plans for 42 Westmoor Road which was a proposed subdivision near a wetland area. The neighbors in the area of Westmoor Road, which is near Melba Street, spoke out against this subdivision and the application was denied. The Conservation Commission would have appreciated receiving these plans on a more timely basis.
- b) **Possible Change to Conservation Commission Date and Time** – After discussion, it was agreed that the Conservation Commission might change the time of their monthly meetings to 6 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month rather than 7:30 p.m. on the same day. Bill will send an email to all commission members to see if this will work. Maureen will contact Carol to have her check with the city to see if the conference room is available at this time.
- c) Kathy Kobishyn spoke to the commission members regarding having Ralph Harrison, a local beekeeper, attend a future meeting as a potential speaker. Bill suggested having Ralph attend the October meeting. Kathy will contact Letty Malone to make arrangements with Ralph.
- d) Carolyn Greer has resigned from The Conservation Commission.
- e) The August Conservation Commission meeting has been cancelled.
- f) Maureen spoke about noticing invasive species at the Mercy House in Madison and speaking to the Executive Director about this. She also had a DVD called "Lurking in the Trees" regarding the Asian Longhorn Beetle.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Berberich

Minutes not approved by the Commission

