

**Minutes of the
The Conservation Commission – City of Milford
Tuesday, November 17, 2015 – 6:00 p.m.**

Vice Chairman Steve Johnson called to order the November 17, 2015 regular meeting of the Conservation Commission at 6:05 p.m.

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

- a) Present: Steve Johnson, Claire Casey, Maureen Mauro DeSantie, Keith Dunn, Dan Drago, Jerry Loiselle, Ryan Keeler
- b) Absent: Bill Poutray, Oden Seaholm

2. Public Comments

- a) None

3. Review of Minutes

- a) **Special Meeting 11/1/2015** – Dan Drago motioned to approve the minutes reflecting the address correction from 533 West Ave. to 553 West Ave. Maureen Mauro DeSantie seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.
- b) **Special Meeting 11/5/2015** – Maureen Mauro DeSantie motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. The minutes were briefly discussed with comments by Dan Drago, Jerry Loiselle and Ryan Keeler. Claire Casey seconded the motion to approve as submitted. It was approved unanimously.

4. Old Business

- a) **Beaver Brook Boardwalk** – Vice-Chairman Johnson said the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was noticed through Purchasing on 11/2/2015. There was a mandatory site walk that was attended by representatives from 11 engineering design firms on 11/10/2015. RFQ submittals are due November 18, 2015 by 3:00 p.m. in Purchasing. RFQ's will be reviewed by Johnson, with PW Director Chris Saley, Inland Wetlands Compliance Officer, MaryRose Palumbo and City Engineer Greg Pidluski. Selected firms will be interviewed in December. The goal is to choose a firm who can develop the design proposal by the end of February 2016.

5. New Business - Vice-Chairman Johnson provided the following updates:

- a) **Wepawaug River Watershed Alliance (WRWA)**- reviewed the final WRWA report with the commissioners. He gave an overview of the grant, sampling criteria, final results, and lessons learned.
- b) **CIRCA Grant – Walnut / Myrtle Beach Dune Restoration Grant** – This grant application submitted by the City's Open Space and Natural Resource office was selected for the Living Shorelines Category. The project area is a dune located east of the Fishing Pier Access along the boardwalk to the first beach boardwalk extension. It will provide invasive management, beach grass and native shrub plantings. There will be

public education outreach and several volunteer opportunities for plantings in the late winter of 2016 and 2017.

- c) **Review of CACIWC Conference** – Chairman Poutray, Vice Chairman Johnson and Commissioner Casey attended this year’s conference workshops and keynote session by Dr. Klemens.
- d) **Review of The Nature Conservancy** – Salt Marsh Advancement Zone Workshop. Highlights of Milford’s coastal study booklet were shared. Examples of several map areas showing estimated salt marsh advancement zones for the 2080s were viewed. This is an opportunity for the identification of undeveloped properties that could be further protected or acquired as open space.
- e) **Education topics for monthly meetings** – Commissioner Drago had suggested that future meetings could include a brief topic of conservation that will last about 15 minutes. Commissioners were asked to think of topics of interest. These mini “break-out” sessions will be designed to enhance conservation education. Information that will be shared will include references for further optional study.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Johnson
Open Space and Natural Resource Agent

These minutes have not been accepted or approved.