

**Conservation Commission Meeting  
Town Hall Meeting Room  
June 5, 2008**

## **Minutes**

### **Attendance:**

**Members present:** William Rutherford, Lisette Henrey, Nancy Dickinson, Aleksandra Brash, Renee F. Seblatnigg, Gary Silberberg, Gulietta Fargion, and Suzanne Graham

**Staff:** Denise Savageau and Aleksandra Moch

**Audience present:** Winston Robinson, Parks and Recreation; Chris Field, Audubon CT IBA Program Coordinator; Stephanie Schmidt, Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences - Audubon consultant

### **Commission Discussion Session – 7:00 p.m.**

**Called to order** at 7:10 p.m. by Rutherford

- 1) **Seating of Alternates:** Graham was seated for Baker and Silberberg was seated for Brower.
- 2) **Review and approval of minutes** for the April 26, 2008 site walk and May 1, 2008 meeting. A motion was made by Graham and seconded by Brash to approve both minutes as presented. The motion carried.
- 3) **Chairman's Report:** The three Chairmen of the Land Use Commissions met to discuss the new Plan of Conservation and Development drafted by the P&Z's consultants. It is expected that the draft POCD will be out in June. Rutherford recommended that the next Conservation Commission meeting in July be entirely devoted to the review of the proposed POCD plan.

Reminder, due to the Independence Day, the regular July meeting has been scheduled for July 10, 2008.

#### 4) **Staff Report:**

- a) Fishway: The fish count for the season is similar to last years numbers. Alewives dominated the run with 80,906 counted. Blueback herrings numbered 12,952. We will be keeping the fish counter in until the end of June. Fishway is being monitored for flow on a regular basis.

- b) Horseshoe Crab Survey: The evening count is scheduled for June 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 p.m. This year's survey is being coordinated with Sacred Heart University and the CT DEP.
- c) Environmental Task Force: Savageau reported that the Energy Conservation Committee is preparing recommendations for the Board of Selectmen looking at setting policy on energy efficiencies for all town operations. The policies would require each department to establish their own energy saving goals and include them in the budget.

5) **New Business**

- a) Great Captain Island - IBA presentation by Audubon Connecticut: Chris Field, Audubon CT, briefly introduced the Important Bird Areas program to the Commission members. Stephanie Schmidt, Manomet presented the proposed management plan and answered the questions. The plan is now in draft form and will be going out to other stakeholders and for peer review this summer. Commission members with specific comments should send them to Alex Brash who edit them into the document and forward them to Savageau to get to Audubon.

6) **Committee/Liaison Reports:**

- a) Cos Cob Power Plant Cleanup and Redevelopment: Savageau presented to the Commission the recently revised redevelopment plan. Although conceptual, the Conservation Commission members were pleased to see the environmentally positive changes. Rutherford and Savageau will work with DPW and the consultants on the final design.

7) **Old Business**

- a) Stanwich School – status report: The application was re-submitted to the IWWA for permit modification. P& Z will discuss the project after IWWA acts on the proposal. A public hearing with IWWA is scheduled for June 9, 2008 and with P&Z on June 17, 2008

A motion was made by Henrey and seconded by Brash to adjourn the meeting.

The motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

Submitted by,

Aleksandra Moch