

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
FAIRFIELD, CONNECTICUT  
MINUTES OF CONSERVATION MEETING  
January 21, 2010**

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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
FAIRFIELD, CT

The Conservation Commission of the Town of Fairfield held a Meeting on January 21, 2010, in Meeting Room II of the Honorable John J. Sullivan Independence Hall, 725 Old Post Road, Fairfield, CT.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Stanton Lesser, Chairman; Milan Bull, Vice Chairman; Landon Storrs; Joan Neiley; and Kathleen Maxham. **ALTERNATES:** Douglas Jones; Elizabeth Jones and Philip DiGennaro. **ABSENT:** Frank Rice and J. Paul DeMarrais. Also Present: Thomas Steinke, Conservation Director; Edward Jones, Open Space Manager; Annette Jacobson, Conservation Administrator, and members of the public.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Lesser.

**APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATES:** Philip DiGennaro, Douglas Jones, and Elizabeth Jones were appointed to sit as full members.

**I. CONSERVATION**

**A. Bills and Communications:**

1. Approval of Minutes of the Conservation Commission Meeting of December 17, 2009: Kathleen Maxham moved and Elizabeth Jones seconded to approve the meeting minutes of December 17, 2009. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Approval of Secretary's Bill for December 17, 2009: Milan Bull moved and Kathleen Maxham seconded to approve the Secretary's Bill for December 17, 2009. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Approval of Minutes of the Conservation Commission Special Meeting of December 3, 2009: Kathleen Maxham moved and Milan Bull seconded to approve the Special Meeting minutes of December 3, 2009. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Approval of Secretary's Bill for December 3, 2009: Kathleen Maxham moved and Milan Bull seconded to approve the Secretary's Bill for December 3, 2009. Motion passed unanimously.

Upon Landon Storrs arrival at 7:32 p.m., Elizabeth Jones sat as an alternate member for the remainder of the evening; Philip DiGennaro and Douglas Jones continued to sit as full members.

5. Letter to the Commission from Barbara Harris – The Commission acknowledged the correspondence from Ms. Harris.

**DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO REVIEW, CORRECTION AND APPROVAL BY  
THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD**

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. H. Smith Richardson Conservation Fund Trust: Peter Roberge of Bank of New York-Mellon (New Co-Trusteeship): Mr. Roberge was unable to attend the meeting this evening. The matter will be placed on a future agenda when Mr. Roberge is available.

Joan Neiley *moved* and Milan Bull *seconded* to approve the following contributions from the H. Smith Richardson Fund Trust:

- (1) Annual Request For A Contribution of \$1,000.00 from the Saugatuck River Watershed Conservation Alliance.
- (2) Annual Request For A Contribution of \$1,500.00 from the Southwest Conservation District.

*Motion passed unanimously*

- B. 2010-2011 Budget: Thomas Steinke reported that the budget has been submitted. The Commission will be kept apprised with regard to when the Board of Finance is scheduled to review the Conservation budget.
- C. Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection – Proposed Stream Flow Standards and Regulations:

The Commission reviewed the January 14, 2010 memo from Annette Jacobson regarding the CT DEP proposed streamflow standards and regulations. Ms. Jacobson provided a brief history concerning the litigation that resulted in the requirement that the DEP establish these standards and regulations to give consideration to the water quantity for aquatic wildlife and natural environment. Previously, only water quality was allowed to be considered. Ms. Jacobson noted that as a result of the 2005 court decision, committees – which were comprised of many individuals, including water company representatives, conservationists and scientists, were established by the State. It will be a long process before the new standards and regulations are fully implemented, with the first five years dedicated to classifying the various waterbodies. Class I is for pristine water, untouched by man, while Class IV is for water that has been completely altered. Thomas Steinke indicated that Class IV should be further reviewed to make sure that those waterbodies support the aquatic species. The deadline to provide comment on the proposed streamflow standards and regulations is midnight on February 4, 2010. Douglas Jones *moved*, and Milan Bull *seconded* to authorize Thomas Steinke to prepare comments on the proposed streamflow standards and regulations, as discussed this evening, to be forwarded to the CT DEP. *Motion passed unanimously*. Thomas Steinke will e-mail the Commissioners with proposed comment for their review prior to submittal. Commissioners will contact Mr. Steinke with any comments or suggestions that they wish to have included in the comments to the CT DEP.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Connecticut Easement Marking Policy – Easement Markers Committee March 1999: This matter will be placed on a future agenda when Commissioner Frank Rice is present.

**IV. OTHER**

- A. Conservation Department Web Site Statistics: Informational.
- B. Earth Day Celebration Committee Announces Earth Day Celebration May 8, 2010: Informational.
- C. Conn. Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions, Inc. Newsletter – The Habitat – Fall 2009 – Informational.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Milan Bull *moved* and Kathleen Maxham *seconded* to adjourn at 8:03 p.m. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Gabriel