

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
FAIRFIELD, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES OF SPECIAL CONSERVATION MEETING
APRIL 7, 2011**

The Conservation Commission of the Town of Fairfield held a Special Meeting on April 7, 2011, in the All Purpose Room of the Osborn Hill Elementary School, 760 Stillson Road, Fairfield, CT.

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Lesser.

APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATES: Douglas Jones was appointed to sit as a full member.

I. CONSERVATION

A. Bills and Communications:

1. Approval of Minutes of the Conservation Commission February 17, 2011: Kathleen Maxham *moved* and Douglas Jones *seconded* to approve the meeting minutes of February 17, 2011. *Motion passed unanimously*. It was noted that where appropriate, in paragraph III. New Business, Subparagraph B, that the word Stone should be replaced with "Stones".
2. Approval of Secretary's Bill for February 17, 2011: Kevin Gumpper *moved* and Kathleen Maxham *seconded* to approve the Secretary's Bill for February 17, 2010. *Motion passed unanimously*.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion on Meeting Scheduling and Possible Date Consolidation: It was the consensus of the Commission that Conservation Staff will contact the Chairman if it is anticipated that the meeting will not be lengthy. The Chairman will make a determination as to whether or not the regular meeting should be canceled, and the business will be addressed at a special meeting on the evening of the regularly scheduled Inland Wetlands Meeting. Conservation Staff will take the necessary steps to properly advise the Town Clerk and the public when there are meeting cancelations and/or special meetings.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Dog Related Complaints on Open Space Areas: Edward Jones advised the Commission that Staff has received several complaints concerning dog owners not picking up after their pets, and concerning dogs not being leashed. Mr. Jones provided the Commission with some samples of signs proposed to be placed at the open spaces. The signs contained information notifying the public of the open space regulations pertaining to dogs and of the related penalties for failure to comply. Following discussion, and input from the public, it was the consensus of the Commission that Edward Jones will continue to obtain public input and prepare draft signs for the Commission to consider. Mr. Lesser noted that Commission's review and approval can likely be accomplished through e-mail communications and it would probably not be necessary to have the matter placed on a future meeting agenda.

IV. OTHER

- A. Conservation Department Maintenance Crew Report. Informational.
- B. Earth Day Celebration Committee announces the Earth Day Celebration April 30, 2011: Edward Jones noted that the Earth Day event is scheduled for April 30, 2011. Mr. Jones noted that Frank Rice has manned the Conservation Commission table in previous years and recommended that other commissioners provide some assistance.
- C. Conservation Department Web Site Statistics - Informational.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Kathleen Maxham *moved* and Kevin Gumper *seconded* to adjourn at 7:21 p.m. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Gabriel