

Conservation Commission  
City of Danbury  
March 15, 2010  
7:00 p.m.  
City Hall – Room 2C  
Meeting Minutes

The meeting opened at approximately 7:10 p.m.

Members present: Linda Murray - Chairwoman, Shaun McColgan - Secretary, Bill Montgomery, Nelle Tresselt, Pat Weiner, and Kim Botelho-Commissioners.

Absent / Excused: Ed Prybylski – Vice Chairman

Guests: Gio Ogno – OQNC, Jack Kozuchowski- consultant

Introductions were done by all present.

Item: **Approval of Feb. 22, 2010 meeting minutes** – Motion to approve – Bill, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Kim, vote – approved by all.

**Reports:**

Update on Open Space Priority Properties and SRG celebration: Jack

Things are going very well on acquiring properties under the Open Space Fund.

Jack reported that the city is acquiring easements for the Ives Trail and it is going well.

Four private property easements are almost completed and may be presented to the City Council in April or May. Jack expects the Ives Trail to be completed this year.

The Sanford's Pond (Farrington property) is very close to acquisition and has been approved by the City Council for purchase. Jack is writing a grant that may cover some of the purchase cost.

The Still River Greenway (SRG) is completed as far as it was expected to be. The SRG Alliance has been resurrected and they are holding meetings again. An SRG Re-Opening celebration is scheduled for June 12, 2010, from 9 a.m. to Noon.

Old Quarry Nature Center (OQNC): Gio

Gio reported that he sent out the latest minutes of the Friends of OQNC.

Gio and Nelle are working on getting the OQNC put on advertising maps that are distributed around the city.

Gio reports that he has found drug paraphernalia on the grounds, some vandalism to the fireplace, and graffiti too. He also reports that there are signs of a squatter.

Bear Mountain Reservation (BMR): Lin, Kim, Shaun

There have been flooding problems on the trails due to the recent heavy rains and snow melt. A directional pole is down, by the culvert, as a result of it. Wood chips have been delivered by the Forestry Department for use on the trails. Work continues on the trailhead bulletin board. Attendance is up at BMR, especially families.

Lin has not heard anything further from FCI.

Still River Greenway (SRG):

Covered above under Reports.

**Old Business / Key Initiatives:**

BMR / SRG mowing: Lin. An RFQ (Request for Quote) for SRG has been put in by Lin. BMR mowing money is available, but only for that purpose.

BMR meadow management: Kim. Nothing new to report.

Budget management: Lin. It is unknown at this time if the budget will be cut or not for the coming fiscal year.

Commission development: Pat. Pat is developing a list of prospective new members or alternates for future use as needed.

Mill Plain Swamp: Lin and Kim. Nothing new to report.

OQNC: All. See Reports section of minutes.

SRG expansion: Ed, Pat, Nelle. Nothing new to report.

Added layer of protection for major parks: Bill. Nothing new to report.

**New Business:**

SRG celebration on June 12th:

Discussed under Reports.

Kim made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Pat, and approved by all.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

**Next Meeting:** Monday, April 19, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., Room 2C, City Hall.

Submitted by: Shaun McColgan – Commission Secretary.

04/08/09