

Minutes  
Watertown Conservation Commission  
Lower Hearing Room  
Wednesday, October 3, 2012  
7:30p.m.  
*Adopted December 5, 2012*

**Conservation Commission Members Present:** Marylouise Pallotta McDermott, Patrick Fairbairn, Leo Martin, Charles Bering, Michelle Gauvin

**Conservation Commission Members Absent:** Maria Rose, Lou Taverna

**Staff Present:** Christopher J. Hayward, Daphne Collins

**Members of the Public Present:** See Sign-In Form

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Pallotta-McDermott chaired.

**1) Certificate of Compliance - 480 Pleasant Street - 321-0149, WWO-11-06**

Hayward reported that the project has been completed to his satisfaction.

**Vote:** Martin moved to issue a COC for 480 Pleasant Street. Martin seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**2) Filippello Park Discussion**

Pallotta McDermott provided a historical overview of the project. She expressed appreciation that the Town was moving the recycling center to another location and that the park can be completed as originally designed with the reused fence from the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum donated by the Mt. Auburn Cemetery installed.

Deb Whitman, 135 Maplewood Street, supported a dog park for Watertown at the Filippello location.

Peter Centola, Director of Parks and Recreation, introduced Glenn Howard, the town's landscape architect from CDM. Centola thought that other recreational usages not available in the town could be envisioned for the park such as: bocce, horse shoes, chess tables, volleyball. He was open to all considerations. He noted that presently there are 3 basketball courts more than needed.

Barbara Ruskin, 140 Spring Street, supported a dog park. She provided examples of successful dog parks from adjacent communities.

Cheryl Wilson, 67 Poplar Street, supported a dog park. When asked, she thought that grass would be a preferable surface for a dog park.

Tony Palomba, 40 Oakley Road, supported a dog park as an additional amenity at Filippello Park.

Pallotta McDermott requested that Centola develop a list of needs and usages to provide to John Wacker.

Martin supported unique amenities for the park that are non-existing in other Watertown parks.

John Wacker requested that a recreational needs list be gathered from Parks and Recreation and the community. Wacker said that the Park's space and use would be developed from this list of prioritized uses. Wacker noted that the elder population is increasing and that their needs be considered.

Louise Hazid, 46 Olive Street, noted that the dog park brings a diverse community of individuals together.

Kathleen Reddy, 15 Poplar Street, indicated that dog parks are used year round unlike other season limited usages.

Pallotta McDermott informed that once the park plans are developed they will go to Steve Magoon to be forwarded to the Town Manager and Town Council.

Fairbairn suggested that the parking be located as near to the road as possible so that more open space is preserved.

The CC scheduled to meet October 11<sup>th</sup> at 4pm at Filippello Park for a site visit with John Wacker.

**3) Minutes of the September Meeting –Tabled.**

**4) Old Business - Tabled.**

Item	Update status
Whitney Hill Report	Item to go before TC on 9/25
Recycling Center/Filippello Park	CC voted unanimously to invite John Wacker, architect, to the Oct. meeting to discuss the entrance design.
Storm Water Advisory Commission	The second ordinance has been docketed with the Subcommittee. The Storm Water Commission finalized the third ordinance.
Rivers Protection Act	Gideon Shriver, Senior Planner, is updating the RPA areas on the Town's GIS

	map.
GSA	Pending advertised comment period.
CPA	CC supports pursuing CPA for open space acquisition. Magoon and Mena to be invited to the Oct. meeting to discuss rezoning Oakley Country Club.
Pleasant Street Tree Planting Fund	Hayward will continue to work on the Pleasant Street tree plantings and collaborate with Pleasant St property owners.
No Build-Zone Regulations Update	Item to be placed on Oct's Agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.