

**Trumbull Conservation Commission Meeting**  
**March 26, 2008**  
**Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by John Russell at 7:40 in the Nichols Room of Town Hall. In attendance were Joanne Parsons, Dale Parsons, Lars Jorgensen, and Julie Jenkins. The minutes from the last meeting were approved.

Dale Parsons stated that he had spoken to a representative from the DEP, and the DEP no longer had the staffing to support town organizations in their efforts to intervene on environmental issues.

John will be drafting a letter about the retail development next to Marissa's restaurant. The commission is questioning the impact of paving this area and the possibility of increasing run off to the adjacent stream. The development site seems to contain fill and this should be investigated.

The Hidden Pond development was discussed, and a letter will be written to be submitted to the Inland Wetlands Commission's meeting on April 1, 2008 stating our assessment of the proposed subdivision. Among the items to be addressed are the following:

- The presence of regulated materials within the site. These items may include asbestos tiles, scrap wood, chemical storage barrels, and automobile parts. The removal of these items does not preclude the testing of the soil below where they have been stored.
- Using the 100' boundary from the wetlands, as proposed by the developer, houses #3, 4, 5, and 6 are within the wetlands boundary; houses #1, 2, and 7 are partially within the wetlands boundary.
- Old wetlands and topographical maps clearly show the subdivision site as a wetlands area, while today some of it has been filled in with material of unknown origin.
- The subdivision site is an important catch basin to slow the flow of water into Pinewood Lake and ultimately the Pequonock River. Removal of plant material or filling of the wetlands to any degree will adversely affect the watershed area. Pinewood Lake has seen an increase in the need for dredging because of silt build up in the lake.

The Pinewood Lake Association has asked the Conservation Commission to present its findings about the Hidden Pond development at a meeting to be held March 27 in the Helen Plumb Building. The Conservation Commission plans to attend, show slides of the area, present the Southwest Conservation Commission report, as well as answer any questions from the Pinewood Lake Association.

The Conservation Commission will also draft a letter supporting an aerial photo of the town. The aerial photo will provide a more accurate topographical map showing wetlands, roads, sizes of watercourses, placement of buildings, among other things. This could also help in floodplain management for Trumbull.

Dale and Joanne Parsons mentioned a program in Westport which encourages citizens to become the "eyes and ears" of the town to help assure that zoning, building, and wetland issues are enforced. This will be explored as a possibility here in Trumbull.

The next meeting will be April 17, 2008.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Julie Jenkins