

## **Board of Directors, 1975-1976**

President: Ms. Ann Roesner  
Vice-President: Mr. Richard Staley  
Secretary: Ms. Hannah Morehouse  
Treasurer: Mr. David A. Hunt

### Directors to 1976

Ms. Sally Barnett	Mr. Robert Brandwein
Ms. Phyllis Butler	Mr. Richard DiSanti
Ms. Helen Heyn	Rev. Scott Paradise
Mr. Richard Wilson	

### Directors to 1977

Miss Elizabeth Cushman	Ms. Ann Dinsmore
Ms. Ann Dwelley	Ms. Sharon Francis
Ms. Deborah Howard	Ms. Joan Lerner
Mr. Ernest Lowenstein	

### Directors to 1978

Mr. Abe Bluestone	Ms. Cathy Cobb
Mr. Bart Hague	Mr. David Jackson
Mr. Marcus Lieberman	Ms. Kay Morrison
Ms. Nancy Pompian	

### Officers Retiring as of Annual Meeting 1975

Susan Wilkes (President)	Marilyn Murphy (Treasurer)
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### Board of Directors Retiring as of Annual Meeting 1975

Melvin Darack	Betty Dyer
Harold Mahon	Lynn Margulis
Milton Rubin	

## **June 1975**

Newton Conservators  
Minutes of Board Meeting  
June 11, 1975. 8 p.m.  
at Ann Roesner's, 191 Allerton Rd., Newton Highlands

**Present:** Officers Roesner, Staley, Hunt; Dirs. Morrison, Wilson, Heyn, Pompian, Hague, Barnett; member Andrea Wilson.

**Treasurer's Report:** There is \$228.89 in the checking account.

**Membership:** Ann Dwelley has mailed out renewal notices. There are 147 renewal or new memberships. 20 people donated money over and above dues. \$220.50 has been collected from this source.

**Newsletter:** Kay Morrison and Nancy Pompian are the co-editors.

**Ordway Park:** The Ordway Park brochure was distributed. It contains many mistakes. 1,000 were printed at a cost of @ 15¢.

It was MOVED, SECONDED and PASSED that paying the two bills (artist's and printer's) be TABLED until the July meeting.

It was MOVED, SECONDED and PASSED that the brochure be REJECTED.

A committee of Heyn, Staley, Barnett, Roesner (Susan Wilkes will be asked to join) was appointed to put together a new brochure for Ordway Park. They will report at the July meeting. It was suggested it be just an Ordway Park brochure (should not include map of open spaces in Newton; that could be another brochure) and expand the list of plants, bushes & trees in the Park. Suggestions:

- Page 1. Conservators' symbol and simple map of how to get to Ordway Park, including the entrance.
- Page 2. List of plants and a key.
- Page 3. A map of Ordway Park walking tour.
- Page 4. Purposes of Conservators, a list of our publications and a membership blank.

**Candidates Questionnaire:** A questionnaire on the environment presented to political candidates last year was passed out. Joan Lerner has volunteered to prepare one for this year's candidates. Suggested questions:

1. Views on Norumbega
2. Views on Charles River Pathway plan
3. Views on Parks maintenance
4. How can the Park Commission (formed in 1954 to deal with Temple Mishkin Tefila's wanting to buy MDC land) be more effectively used. Has the Conservation Commission eliminated the need for its function of liaison with the MDC?

If anyone has any other suggestions, please call Joan. She will bring her sample questionnaire to the July meeting. It was suggested the replies be published in the newsletter and the newsletter get wider than usual distribution - possibly in libraries?

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Pompian, Acting Secretary

**July 1975**

Newton Conservators  
Minutes of Board Meeting

July 9, 1975, 8 p.m.  
Ann Roesner's, 191 Allerton Rd., Newton Highlands

**Present:** Officers Roesner, Staley, Morehouse, Hunt; Dirs. Lerner, Heyn, Hague, Morrison, Pompian, Francis, Howard, DeSanti, Lowenstein, Barnet; members Ed Lerner; O.P. Jackson, Newton Times; Stanton Lyman, Urban Beautification Commission; Sissy Feinber, Beautification Commission; Russ Halloran, Recreation Commissioner.

**Discussion with Russ Halloran:** Recreation worked with Conservation Commission to clean up Webster Vale and also loaned them their boat. On July 28, the Mayor's Reorganization Plan will be presented to the Aldermen again (calls for all maintenance to be done by Public Works). Halloran feels Recreation Commission priority is to put money into capital improvements on land already owned by city, but his personal feeling is we should all work together.

Mr. Halloran took a list of 8 recreation needs sent by Garrison Wilkes (crafts center for adults, including a woodworking shop; community farm; area for cross-country skiing; and jogging; drop-in hobby center (maybe in a closed school); more picnic areas; areas with far-reaching views; and more garden plots), and said he encourages ideas from citizens.

The Life Course is opening in Auburndale. \$2000 was budgeted for it, and a lot of volunteer labor went into it. Rich Griffin, Planning Department, is working on a plan for a bike path.

It was suggested that we have a regular representative at Conservation and Recreation Commission meetings. The Park Commission is inactive. Their existence fulfills a statutory requirement.

Crystal Lake is a great pond and we must let non-residents swim. The new circulator is under the beach house with 3 hoses going into the lake. Last week the bacteria count was 0.

Mr. Halloran stressed that all these recreation areas need to be supported at budget time, vocally and in large numbers. He feels the facility lacking in Newton is artificial ice.

**Ordway:** The Ordway Committee showed their brochure, and it was APPROVED with minor modifications. Ann Roesner and Dick Staley will prepare a new copy, and Helen Heyn and Sally Barnett will proofread it. They can spend up to \$200 for printing, not to exceed 1000 copies.

The previous brochure is unacceptable. The Conservators must pay the printing bill, but payment is tabled until a proper bill is received. The Board does not accept the responsibility of paying the artist and feels it is the personal responsibility of Lynn Margolis.

Ordway needs to be cleaned up. Members offered to meet on Sat., July 12 at 9:30 a.m. with pruning equipment. Helen Heyn will coordinate.

**Candidates' Questionnaire**: Joan Lerner reported that the questionnaire for political candidates last time got evasive replies that did not enable us to differentiate between pro- and anti-environmental candidates. There was a discussion on the problem of carrying on educational programs without conflicts with our tax-exempt status and land trust.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hannah Morehouse, Secretary

### **September 1975**

Newton Conservators, Inc., Meeting  
September 10, 1975 - 7:45 p.m.  
Film/Lecture Hall, Newton North High School  
[Meeting for the membership and the public].

The Newton Conservators presents two Films:

"The Flooding River, A Study in Riverine Ecology"

An intensive scientific documentation of the spring flooding cycle of the Connecticut River in relation to its flora, fauna, and geology. Concludes that rivers from their headwaters to the sea are self-sustaining and dynamic ecosystems which owe their existence to the natural phenomenon of flooding. By Dr. Lincoln P. Brower, ecology professor at Amherst College

"Planning for Floods"

A recent flood of the Mississippi River and the June, 1972 flash flood at Rapid City, S.D. This film dramatically demonstrates the tragedies that can result from total reliance on dams, channelization, levees, and other structural measures for protection. By Dr. Lincoln P. Brower and Robie Hubley, director of Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary.

These important films reflect the ongoing interest of the Newton Conservators in guiding development away from flood-prone areas. It was the Conservators who in 1969 asked the aldermen to adopt Newton's floodplain watershed protection ordinance.

[no signature]

### **October 1975**

Newton Conservators  
Minutes of Board Meeting

Oct. 8, 1975

**Present:** Bluestone, Cobb, Heyn, Howard, Pompian, Cushing, Morrison, Paradise, Barnett, Staley, Lieberman, Roesner, Dwelley; guests Gross, Leith.

Ann Dwelley announced a **membership drive for businesses** in Newton. A letter will soon be sent to each business inviting them to join the Conservators.

Ann Roesner presented the **Ordway Park brochure** for approval before printing. A few corrections in detail were made and it was APPROVED. It was suggested that 3000 copies be ordered, so it may be distributed to the membership, school teachers, and libraries.

No action was taken on the proposed change in zoning for the Perini land on the south side of Commonwealth, because the land had been sold to Iodice and the hearing cancelled.

Cay Morrison and Nancy Pompian were congratulated for the excellent **newsletters**. Contributors to the newsletter are needed, and people are asked to volunteer. Marcus Lieberman will cover City Hall.

Sally Barnett presented the figures from the returns of the 1974 city census.

Initiative petitions for returnable beverage containers were distributed.

It was VOTED that the Conservators sponsor with the Conservation Commission and Recreation Commission a **bus tour in the spring** of the open spaces mentioned in the CIP and others.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sally Barnet, Acting Sec.

### **November 1975**

Newton Conservators  
Minutes of Board  
November 12, 1975, 8:00 PM  
Ann Roesner's, 191 Allerton Rd., N.H.

**Present:** Officers Roesner, Hunt. Dirs. Barnett, Hague, Cobb, Lieberman, Jackson, Bluestone, Pompian, Lerner; guests

Rich Griffin and Bob Merriman, Newton planners, presented the **city planning** for **Cold Spring Playground**. There are a number of plans designed to deal with a range of use from heavy use to leaving it almost untouched woodlands. They discussed the planning for **Newton Center Business Area**, which will be done in the coming year. Plans were

presented for the **Commonwealth Ave.** Arboretum and jogging path from Lowell Ave. to Washington St. Other items mentioned were proposed **bicycle paths**, a tree path along **Quinobequin Rd.** and a slide and tape show on **Upper Falls**.

**Treasurer's Report** as of November, 1975

Mutual Bank for Savings	
Arboretum Fund	\$ 1,478.48
Webster Vale Fund	\$ 2,637.32
Newton Cooperative Bank	
Ordway Fund	\$22,249.44
Auburndale Cooperative Bank	
Savings Acct.	\$ 1,027.01
Newton Waltham Bank & Trust Co.	
Checking Acct.	<u>\$ 274.20</u>
	\$27,666.45

Respectfully submitted,  
Sally Barnett, Acting Secretary

**December, 1975**

Newton Conservators  
Minutes of Meeting  
December 10, 1975

**Present:** Officers Roesner, Morehouse, Hunt; Dirs. Heyn, Butler, Jackson, Howard, Barnett, Cobb, Lerner, Francis, Pompian

**Recycling:** Betsy Lewenberg (accompanied by Bev Zweiman) showed slides of the recycling program. She hoped to take this into every elementary school classroom. If anyone would be able to help her, please call her at 332-367\_. It was suggested the show also be shown to garden clubs and PTAs. It is important to reach the parents as well as the kids. David Jackson suggested orientation and training in recycling for the trash collection, so they will be committed to the program, too. They could have tickets they could leave for homeowners saying "you've put recyclable materials in the regular trash, etc." Money is needed to publicize ideas on how easy it is. Take your ideas to the Mayor. Petition the Aldermen. Sell small trash cans with a white stripe as a fund-raising project.

It was asked where the leaf dump would be located after Cold Springs is developed. The Pine St. Dump and Rumford St. site both need soil, but there is the problem of public acceptance for these areas to be used as a leaf dump.

**Treasurer's Report:**

December:

Mutual Bank for Savings	Savings Acct.	\$1,027.01
	Arbor Fund	\$1,478.48
	Webster Vale	\$2,637.32
Newton Co-op	Ordway Acct.	\$22,249.44
Newton Waltham Bank	Checking Acct.	\$ 275.78

\$ 27,668.03

There has been an increase in total assets of almost \$1,000 since June (June total - \$26,742.33) due to management of the Treasurer and membership drive.

The **Nature Conservancy** (a national organization) is asking for contributions for their general fund to acquire more land. Their northeast regional office, which is in Boston, helped start the Newton Conservators in 1961 by letting us use their membership list for a mailing list. They wrote for us a free report on Norumbega, and would have helped us with the purchase price if Newton hadn't time to through government funding. They have a revolving fund that they use to buy land to hold until local governments can afford to buy it (They recently acquired land in Maine.) and also own land to hold. They publish a manual on all property they own in the U.S.

It was MOVED, SECONDED and PASSED to donate \$25.00 to the Nature Conservancy.

The treasurer asked for clarification of the status of the **Webster Vale Fund**.

It was MOVED, SECONDED and PASSED that all of the funds formerly known as the Webster Vale Fund, be held in a segregated fund for the purpose of land or rights in land in Newton.

Ann Roesner and Sally Barnett will get a copy of the deed for the Vale land donated to the City by Robert Cohen and will talk to George Upham about donating his land.

**Reminder:** If you have not paid dues by June 2, 1976, you cease to be a member of the corporation. Dues are \$5.00.

**Newsletter:** The Newsletter is costing \$38 a month to print (photocopy) by the Rapid Copy Service, Needham, 449-1079. At 400 copies, this is less than 10¢ a copy.

**Future of the Conservators:** A purpose for a Temporary Committee to rethink the purpose and role in the community of the Conservators was discussed. Do we need subcommittees? Does the Conservation Commission do many things we used to? If we

are to be watch dogs of governmental agencies, should their members be on our Board of Directors? How can we best work with the Conservation Commission? David Jackson would like support of his efforts to save the remaining elm trees. How do we deal with the problem of getting volunteers? Should we have a paid executive secretary? It was decided to form an **ad hoc committee** of Lerner, Pompian, Jackson, Staley, Roesner and Barnett. Each member will contact 2 or 3 others to get their ideas, and these will be presented at the Feb. meeting.

**Ordway Park:** A copy of the third version of the Ordway Park brochure was passed around. It was decided to put the Conservators' addresses on with a stamp to allow for future changes. We have paid a CETA man \$100.00 to clean up the corner of the park. The casting for the marker is at the foundry, and we hope the marker will be installed this spring.

The Planning Dept. is studying the Conservation Commission Plan of 1973 and any revisions that have been suggested since. The Aldermanic Planning Committee is using our **Open Space Plan** and has referred it to the Planning Dept.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hannah Morehouse, Secretary

### **January 1976**

Newton Conservators  
Minutes of Board Meeting  
January 14, 1976, 8:00 PM  
Ann Roesner's

**Present:** Officers Roesner, Staley, Hunt, Morehouse; Dirs. Butler, Hague, Bluestone, Barnett, Jackson, Paradise; guests Alderman David Cohen, Laura Freund.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

January

Mutual Bank for Savings	Savings Acct. \$ 1,035.49
	Arbor Fund 1,491.66
	Webster Vale 2,660.82
Newton Co-op Bank	Ordway Acct. 22,375.30
Newton Waltham Bank & Trust	Checking Acct. <u>241.89</u>
Total	\$27,805.16

**Newton Growth Committee:** According to a new state law, every community is invited to form a committee to study its own growth. This committee will fill out a detailed questionnaire, and all information will go back to the State Planning Office. Conservators should keep this committee informed of our views. There is also a 150 page growth policy statement put out by the State Planning Office. The Conservators



should read this, take a position and make our views known to the Newton Planning Dept., MAPC, & the Newton Growth Committee. A summary is available, which could go in the Newsletter.

**Reorg Plan:** David Cohen reported on the Reorg Plan for public works & street. What has been accomplished: the positions of Director of P.W. and Street Commissioner have been abolished. There is now a Commissioner of Public Works who will have more direct control over public works and street. The ordinances have been changed to reflect the title change.

Mayor's plan: The Mayor sent an August 18, 1975 letter to the Aldermen outlining his reorg plan. The P.W. Commissioner would have line authority over Street, Water and City Engineer (the Director of PW didn't have this), and the Street and Water Commissioners and City Engineer would be eliminated. One person would oversee and run PW and Street. The maintenance function of Buildings and Recreation would go to PW. Building Dept. would concentrate on code enforcement, and Recreation on recreation. There would be 5 divisions - 1) Engineering, 2) Parks & Grounds (to be overseen by a trained arborist), 3) Water & Sewer, 4) Highway & Sanitation, 5) Equipment & Vehicle Maintenance.

#### Discussion

- 1) Would this be a really significant change? David Cohen feels what [it] is really is flexibility of workers' function. We now have very specific job specifications (a truck driver can only drive a truck, not move other equipment or work on a crew.)
- 2) Would this plan mean more administrative personnel? Example: now head of Forestry is a civil service job. Would he stay on and an assistant commissioner mean an added position?
- 3) Plan didn't deal with clerical staff. Each department now has own clerical staff. Could these be consolidated?
- 4) David Cohen feels outlined duties should be kept flexible.
- 5) We now have 3 yards with a variety of functions. Would these be adequate for increased responsibilities?

Current status: Aldermen have said there is no action necessary at this time. They want more specificity as to functional changes in middle management and workers. The Mayor wants the new commissioner to develop some of the specifics. He has said he will appoint the Commissioner on April 1st (Gene Larson, present Building Commissioner) and will come back with more details after that.

The unions and civil service could be constraints on reclassification of job descriptions. Civil service would not require hearings on broadening a classification as long as the worker is used primarily in the original classification. Other communities have done this. Unions are in favor of specificity of classification. The Union contract is to be negotiated this year.

**Reorg Plan for Planning, Housing, etc:** David Jackson reported on the reorg for Planning, Housing and Redevelopment. There is to be a new Planning & Redevelopment Department and a single Planning and Development Board, which would combine the Housing and Redevelopment Authorities. Beautification Commission, Planning, Conservation Commission and Historical Commission would all be under Planning Department. They could demand meetings with the Planning and Development Board, so they could be sure attention would be paid to them. Something has been added to the Historical Commission - an Historic Districts Commission (composed of the Historical Commission plus two district residents) and an Historic District (Upper Falls).

**Need to Diversify City Tree Planting.** Several years ago, the Aldermen passed a directive to the City to diversify the kinds and locations of trees that the City plants. The City still needs a contract for homeowners to sign, absolving the City of liability so city workers can plant trees on homeowners' land, so all city trees aren't lined up in a row under the power lines. Ann Roesner and other interested Conservators will find out the Beautification Commission's tree policy and speak to the Mayor to push for money to diversify city tree planting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hannah Morehouse, Secretary

### **February 1976**

Newton Conservators  
Minutes of Board Meeting  
February 11, 1976, 8 P.M.  
at Ann Roesner's, 191 Allerton Rd., N.H.

**Present:** Officers Roesner, Hunt, Morehouse; Directors Cobb, Heyn, Francis, Lerner, Jackson, Butler, Lieberman, Howard, DeSanti.

At the hearing held by the Committee to Study Use of Empty Buildings in Newton, Ann Roesner read the Conservators' statement (drafted by Barnett and Lerner) on the importance of preserving open space, specifically in reference to the **Peabody School** suite. (The Committee had recommended it be rezoned for development. The Committee's report will go to the Core Committee, which will make recommendations to the Mayor.) There is a question as to what to do with the buildings. One suggestion came from a group who wants to form a Newton Historical Preservation Ass. and use the Bigelow House. It is a question of money.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Mutual Bank for Savings	Arbor Fund	\$1,491.66
	Webster Vale	2,660.82
	Savings	1,035.49
Newton Co-op Bank	Ordway	22,375.30
Newton Waltham Bank	Checking	<u>370.23</u>

Total \$27,933.50

**Recycling:** The recycling slide show has been shown to schools whose trash pickup days are Mon., Tues. & Wed. Thurs. and Fri. schools will be done after Feb. vacation. The show has been shown to other groups, such as the Beautification Commission. Ann Roesner will have recycling display in Newton Highland Hardware window, and the owner has agreed to paint a white stripe on trash barrels.

**Billboards:** On March 8th, there will be an Aldermanic hearing on a recommendation before the Land Use and Planning Committees to repeal Section 24-25(c)(8) of the Revised Zoning Ordinances. If this is approved, all billboards in the city will eventually be removed.

**Future of the Conservators:** There was a discussion on the future direction of the Conservators and emphasis for next year. The Ad Hoc Committee submitted the following suggestions:

- 1) That the Conservators concentrate on one major item and that be acquiring the entire Novitiate Land parcel before it is threatened. It might be cheaper now. This would tie in with the idea there should be two major recreation areas (one in the north side of the city and one in the south), linked to the Charles River Pathway. This effort could be a rallying point to generate enthusiasm among members and get new members.
- 2) That the Open Space Committee's report be reviewed and updated and used as part of the Conservators' continuing program to educate the community on the importance of open space.
- 3) That there be a Land Donation Committee to educate people on the importance of leaving land to the City, Conservation restrictions, etc.
- 4) That the Conservators contribute to the Growth Policy hearings in April with suggestions on formulating that policy.
- 5) That the Conservators follow through on the tree diversification program.
- 6) That the Conservators form a support committee for the Conservation Commission's effort to acquire land.

It is the CONSENSUS of the Board that the Conservators advance the Open Space Report & seek ways to educate the public and city officials on the importance of open space, with emphasis on acquisition of the entire Novitiate parcel. We would support the Conservation Commission's land acquisition program and leave tree diversification and recycling to other city groups. We will move on a land donation program and give our views at the Growth Policy hearings.

Paradise, Howard and Francis will be asked to draft a statement for the Growth Policy hearings. Dick Staley will be asked to chair a nominating committee. It is very important that new directors understand what will be expected of them in terms of action.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hannah Morehouse, secretary

## March 1976

Newton Conservators  
Minutes of Board Meeting  
March 20, 1976  
Ann Roesner's, 191 Allerton Rd., N.H.

REMINDER!!!!!! Please pay your dues. (Most Board members have not!!!!)

**Present:** Officers Roesner, Staley, Morehouse, Hunt; Dirs. Morrison, Pompian, Heyn, Cobb, Wilson, Butler, Cushman, Barnett, DiSanti, Francis; guests Annemarie Abernathy, Andre Wilson, Jean Thompson, Dorothy Reichard, Arno Heyn, Scott Saroff (ESP), Stuart Freundberg (ESP), Erica Sussman (ESP), Dan Picard (ESP) and Kay Kahn (Newton Times).

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Mutual Bank for Savings	Arbor Fund	\$ 1,504.95
	Webster Vale	2,684.53
	Savings	1,044.71
Newton Co-op Bank	Ordway	22,375.30
Newton Waltham Bank	Checking	<u>269.03</u>
	Total	\$28,878.52

**Annual Meeting:** This year the Conservators will combine the Annual Meeting with the dedication of **Ordway Park**. This will be Wed., May 19 - 6:00 "Bluejeans Picnic" - 7:00 Dedication with a sherry toast to the future of the Park. (We will get a permit for the sherry just to be safe.) Jean Thompson, a relative of Miss Ordway, will speak and then cut a ribbon. Abutters and Miss Ordway's relatives will be invited. There is a lot of trash there now. The park should be picked up once a month and paths need to be rebuilt. Helen will get a price from Jim Pine, a CETA worker.

**Announcements:** The Land Use Committee did support Carol Ann Shea's billboard resolution.

Sally Barnett has spoken to George Upham. He does want his land left undeveloped but has had 2 appraisals on it. The first (at the time of the Webster Vale) was very low, and the one by the city for revaluation was high. He wants to wait and see what the actual valuation is before making any decision.

There is a hearing at the State House on March 30 at 10:30 concerning returnable bottles. Ann Roesner will try to get someone to make a statement for the Conservators.

The New England Nurserymen's Ass. will give a tree to each of its members. Seltzers (a member) will donate theirs to the city if the City will pick it up, plant it and publicize it.

**Environmental Science Program:** Dick Staley gave budget changes that reduce the total estimated cost of the program to \$6,408, thereby setting tuition at \$195. It was suggested that PTAs be approached as another possible source of scholarships. Marc Lieberman has offered to help as a go between with David Hunt, as David lives in New Hampshire. David is willing to do the extra bookkeeping this program would involve. Arno Heyn would help with trips (He has taught environmental science at BU and had led outing groups.) It was suggested in the future to set the program up as a separate corporation to reduce possible liability for the Conservators.

It was MOVED, SECONDED and PASSED that the Newton Conservators, Inc. offer the Environmental Science to the junior high age students of Newton and surrounding communities for the summer of 1976.

It was MOVED, SECONDED and PASSED to delegate to the Conservators' representatives on the Environmental Science Program planning board the authority to approve the Environmental Science Program brochure. David Hunt, Kathy Cobb and Ann Roesner are the representatives.

It was MOVED, SECONDED and PASSED that funds necessary for printing & mailing the Environmental Science Program brochure (\$100.00) be spent.

**Growth Policy Statement:** Howard and Paradise are working on a statement for the Growth Policy hearing on March 30. They are planning to recommend growth not take place in the remaining open space in Newton but in redeveloping already developed areas. It is the sense of the Board that the statement should be against a significant increase in housing units but be for diversification of population and support of low and moderate income housing. Newton should secure through purchase and easements the existing open space. Low and moderate income housing could be built on rehabilitated land.

Instructions to those drawing up the Conservators' statement: it should contain a general statement of our policy but also have specific answers to specific problems. It was suggested the state create regional agencies to cover each watershed in the state. We should press for a larger BOR fund. The statement must be carefully written so it does not raise any red flags. We support the policy that farming be encouraged in Mass. In order to lower food prices and reduce the energy needed to transport food from other parts of the country. This general policy can apply specifically to Newton to support our working farms and community gardens. We support the improvement of public transportation and are concerned about the heavy reliance on the property tax in this state.

It was MOVED, SECONDED and PASSED to relay the above guidelines to the growth policy statement committee.

The committee will mail a copy of their statement to all Board members for comments by phone, as we will not meet before the 30th.

**Cold Springs:** There are three tentative plans for Cold Springs coming from the Planning Department. One has provisions for cars to drive through the park and one does not. It was MOVED, SECONDED and PASSED that the Newton Conservators support the concept that cars be restricted to peripheral areas of Cold Springs (maintenance vehicles excepted).

**Novitiate land:** This will be the agenda for April. To help acquaint the public with this land, it was suggested we sponsor a bus tour from Norumbega to the Novitiate land, ending with a picnic. During discussion it was felt the public already know more about Norumbega, there isn't that much to see from a bus between the 2 points, and we should concentrate on the Novitiate area. Barnett, Morehouse, Heyn and Lerner will plan a tour of the Novitiate land and Winchester St. area for the beginning of June. This will include an extensive walking tour of the area with parking at City Hall and a bus to transport people from there to the Novitiate land, there being little room for parking there.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hanna Morehouse, Secretary

#### April 1976

Newton Conservators  
Minutes of board Meeting  
April 14, 1976, 8 P.M.  
Ann Roesner's, 191 Allerton Rd., N.H.

**Present:** Officers Roesner, Morehouse, Hunt, Staley; Dirs. Hague, Heyn, Barnett, Cobb, Morrison; Member Andre Wilson.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Mutual Bank for Savings	Arbor Fund	\$ 1511.64
	Webster Vale	2696.46
	Savings	1049.36
Newton Co-op Bank	Ordway	22804.67
Newton Waltham Bank	Checking	<u>286.68</u>
	Total	\$28,348.81

By law, our **Public Charities Report** needs to be audited by a CPA. The accounting firm that has done it for free in the past can no longer do so. One estimate is \$300. Helen Heyn suggested Joseph Fyffe (husband of Mary Fyffe, a director of the Watershed Ass.) might do it for free or a very reasonable fee.

The **membership drive** has produced enough new members to cover the cost of the mailing and then some. Roesner, Hunt, Barnett and Dwelley will get together to bring the membership list up to date.

**Announcements:** May 8 is **Charles River Cleanup Day**. Call Charles River Ass. for details (Rita Barron) or George Mead, City Hall (Personnel Dept), Newton coordinator.

The Agriculture Dept. bulletin urging consumers to buy Mass. Grown produce will be circulated in the **Newsletter**. Bart Hague will write an article on Commissioner Winthrop's major report on preserving farm land.

Nancy Pompian can't work on the Newsletter for awhile. Kay needs help typing the final copy for reproduction and getting the newsletter ready to mail.

**Ordway Park.** Jim Pines' fee for 1/2 day of work per month would be \$40. This includes gradual improvement of the trails. He has the skills to do the job without supervision. The Board felt this was high; could we try the Job Bank for someone to do monthly picking up and save Jim Pines for twice yearly pruning and fixing of walks? Helen Heyn will continue to gather information.

Hannah Morehouse will notify Channels 2, 5, 4 (Sharon King) & 7 about the Ordway Park dedication. She will call with a follow-up letter. André Wilson will notify the newspapers.

One Trash Pickup - Tuesday night - 6:30 - May 18  
One Trash Pickup - Wednesday morning 8:30 - May 19  
Meet at the park and bring your own trash bags!!!!!!

**Environmental Science Program:** Flyers have been delivered or mailed. A letter requesting scholarship funds is being mailed to the Newton membership of the Newton-Needham Chamber of Commerce (about 500 members). Rotaries and Garden Clubs will be approached next. It was **MOVED, SECONDED** and **PASSED** that \$191.94 be paid for the brochure and mailing. It was **MOVED, SECONDED** and **PASSED** that the tentative budget submitted with the Environmental Science Program totaling \$6,408 be approved.

The next meeting with the ESP group is April 27 at Howie Weiss's, 50 Andrew St. There should be enrollment news by then.

**Bus Tour:** The bus tour of the Novitiate land and Winchester St. Recreation Area will be on Sunday afternoon, June 6 (rain date - June 13) with pickup at City Hall at 2:00. There will be a number to call in case there is any doubt about the weather. Heyn, Roesner, Morehouse and Barnett will go on a dry-run tour Wednesday morning, April 21. The bus will be paid for by the Recreation Dept., and the bus driver will be paid for by the Conservation Commission.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hannah Morehouse, Secretary

## May 1976

Newton Conservators  
Minutes of the Annual Meeting  
May 19, 1976, 6:45 P.M.  
Ordway Park

The annual meeting of the Newton Conservators was held on Wednesday, May 19, 1976 at Ordway Park at 6:45 p.m. following a picnic at the Francis home.

**Present:** Officers Roesner, Staley, Morehouse, Hunt; Directors Barnett, Heyn, Hague, Jackson, Morrison, Pompian, Wilson, Paradise; new Sec. Gross; new Directors Barker, Taglienti; guests Stella Penzer, Jean Thompson, Charles Thompson, Ruth Loonis, Louise Lymperis, Theodora Dhionis, Sarah, Frederika, Victoria & Justin Perry, Edward Gross, Harvey & Ann Silverman, Virginia Gray, Emily Tucker, Eunice & Russell Perry.

Conservators, relatives, friends & neighbors of Priscilla Ordway gathered for the **dedication of Ordway Park**. The ribbon around the rock holding the plaque was cut and H. Russell Perry, neighbor and friend, read the following dedication.

While there are numerous motivations which energize conservationists, I like to think that many are motivated strongly by a love for the object of their conservation effort, whether it be antiquities, barbershop quartets, wilderness, or whatever. Priscilla Ordway was so motivated, and her conservation causes were many.

Perhaps some of you are not aware that Priscilla was born in this house on October 20, 1888, passed her entire life of 83 years here, and left the mortal world from her bedroom in this house, on her birthday in 1971. She loved the house and its grounds passionately, as perhaps only one could who was endowed with the sensitivity of an artist and enjoyed the freedom of the unmarried. Only begrudgingly would she allow changes which would alter her home from the way she had known it in her early years.

Her gardens and grounds were a particular gratification to her and were the object of much of her creative energy. Each tree, plant, bird bath, twist in a path was infused with her love, and all reflected this unique relationship back to the visitor as Priscilla conducted him on a tour of her grounds.

Her wish that the grounds be preserved after her death was often expressed to us who had the good fortune of being close to her. She was hopeful that they might bring to others some of the joy which they had brought to her.

And so it is with much pleasure that we, Priscilla's relatives and friends, attend this dedication of her beloved property, knowing that much of what it has always been for her will be thoughtfully preserved by the Newton Conservators. A heartfelt thank you from us for your assumption of this responsibility.



A sherry or ginger ale toast was drunk.

The nominating committee submitted the attached slate. Nominations were asked for from the floor. It was **MOVED, SECONDED** and unanimously **APPROVED** that the slate be accepted and the nominating committee be congratulated for a fine piece of work in preparing the slate.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hannah Morehouse, Secretary