

## Board of Directors, 1979-1980

### Officers

President - John S. Bliss  
Vice President - Ted Tedesco  
Treasurer - Ronald J. Bocage  
Secretary - Peter F. Harrington  
Past President - Ann Roesner

### Board of Directors

Jean Artin	Lisle Baker
Rodney M. Barker	Sally Barnett
Harry H. Crosby	Bart Hague
Ruth Heespelink	Fran Hints
Deborah Howard	David Jackson
Priscilla Leith	Ed Lerner
Joan Lerner	Carol S. Morrison
Richard Primack	Ruth Rabinow
Robert E. Ricles	Robert Romero
John Stewart	Andrée Wilson
Alex Zimmer	

### Membership Chairperson

Jean Thompson

## June 1979

Minutes of Newton Conservators Meeting  
Secretary's Minutes  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Tuesday, June 26, 1979  
at the home of Cay Morrison  
1801 Beacon Street, Waban

**Present:** Bob Ricles, Ron Bocage, Ed Lerner, Fran Hints, Ted Tedesco, Joan Lerner, Phil Leith, Lisle Baker, Sally Barnett, John Stewart, Rodney Barker, Cay Morrison, Peter Harrington, John Bliss.

**Report** by Rodney Barker concerning city tax on **Ordway Park**. The city has allowed an abatement for the entire tax for the fiscal year 1980.

MOTION by Joan Lerner to commend Rodney Barker for his successful work in having the taxes abated and commitment by the city to return a portion paid during calendar year 1978. ACTION: unanimously APPROVED.

MOTION from the floor that the minutes of the Annual Meeting be accepted. ACTION: APPROVED.

MOTION from the floor that the minutes of the Board Meeting of March 27 and April 24 be accepted. ACTION: APPROVED,

MOTION by Lisle Baker to withdraw the **Ordway funds** from the certificate of deposit and hold it in a regular savings account, pending an examination into the feasibility of changing the method of investment. ACTION: unanimously ACCEPTED,

MOTION by Lisle Baker to appoint a **financial review committee** to report at the July meeting concerning the investment of the Ordway funds. ACTION: APPROVED unanimously

MOTION from the floor that the Treasurer's annual report be accepted. ACTION: unanimously APPROVED.

MOTION by Lisle Baker to require Treasurer to have a fidelity bond, renewable annually, paid from the funds of the corporation. ACTION: ACCEPTED.

Report by Joan Lerner concerning the Novitiate party of September 9, 1979. Plans rolling along. Initial contact made with Senator Tsongas. Other plans for games, canoe races, food, in progress.

Report by Lisle Baker concerning Chestnut Hill golf course. The neighbors are making preliminary plans for development for lots along the rim, if the city does not take all of the land.

Report by Joan Lerner with regards to newsletter. Newsletter will be published before July 25, 1979.

Report of John Bliss with regards to Norumbega Park, and Marriott Motel has expressed an interest to expand its facilities, and during the construction phase would like to blacktop a portion of Norumbega Park to provide parking for workers, etc. They have also indicated that they might be willing to give some substantial money to the city for "development" of Norumbega Park.

Request by Lisle Baker that Conservators contact Mayor Mann with regard to maintaining **Novitiate land** as number one priority for open space acquisition, and that he be urged to seek additional funds to acquire the **Chestnut Hill Country Club**.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for July 24, 1979 at the home of Harry Crosby, 48 Ruthven Road, Newton 02158 at 6:30 P.M.

6:30 to 8 P.M. - potluck supper (bring a dish) and business meeting.

8:00 to 10 P.M. - Guest - Barry Canner, Newton City Planner

Submitted by:  
Peter F. Harrington, Secretary

**July 1979**

Meeting of Newton Conservators.  
Secretary's Minutes  
July 14, 1979  
at home of Harry Crosby, 48 Ruthven Rd., Newton

**Present:** John Bliss, Tammy Bliss, Sally Barnett, Joan Lerner, Ed Lerner, Bob Ricles, Fran Hinsta, Bob Hague, Lisle Baker, Harry Crosby, Ron Bocage, Cay Morrison, Nancy Wolfe, Nancy Feldman, John Stewart, Priscilla Leith, Douglas Leith, Ruth Heespelink, Peter Harrington, Barry Canner.

**Secretary's minutes** of meeting of June 26, 1979, correction - the tax abatement at Ordway Park was for fiscal 1979 not fiscal 1980. The application for abatement for fiscal 1980 has been filed. MOTION that the secretary's minutes of the meeting of June 26, 1979 subject to the above correction be accepted, was made from the floor. ACTION: APPROVED.

Motion from the floor that the **treasurer's report** for July, 1979 be accepted. ACTION: APPROVED.

**Report** by Ron Bocage that **insurance fidelity bond** for the treasurer would cost estimated \$40 to \$50 and instructed the insurance agent to take the bond on the treasurer.

**Report** by Ron Bocage that added to the **public liability policy** were four names, they being Ann Roesner, Ruth Heespelink, Jean Thompson, and Andree Wilson.

**Report** by Ron Bocage that he received a bill from Ann Roesner re: **Arboretum Fund** as follows:

Plant, prune, fertilize and mulch in accordance with agreement - \$1,000 to Ross Bronson.

Reimbursement for purchase of hoses, \$118.70 - to Ann Roesner

Watering trees for July and August at \$10.00 a week - to William Roesner.

ACTION: Payment not authorized until receipt of a formal statement.

**Report** of John Bliss of "**Statement in Support of Newton Conservators, Inc., proposed open space goals and policies**" - dated July 24, 1979. ACTION: Referred to

open space goals and policies committee. Committee to meet on August 1, 1979 at 8 P.M. at home of Joan and Ed Lerner at 35 Amherst Rd., Newton.

**Report** by Harry Crosby re: **Novitiate party of September**. Senator Tsongas is available only on Sunday, September 16. He tentatively plans to appear, probably in the early afternoon. We will get confirmation or cancellation before August 15th.

MOTION from the floor that a definite date for the Novitiate party not be established until after receipt of acceptance or cancellation by Senator Tsongas. ACTION: APPROVED.

MOTION by Joan Lerner that the Novitiate party committee be authorized to spend up to \$100.00. ACTION: APPROVED.

Report by John Bliss that the July **Newsletter** was mailed and the new editor is Ed Lerner.

The report of the Financial Investment Committee was referred to the next meeting.

Guest Speaker: Barry Canner, Planning Director for the city of Newton, participated in an interesting discussion concerning the job role and projected policies of the Planning Department.

Next meeting of the Board is scheduled for August 28, 1979.

Submitted by:  
Peter F. Harrington, Secretary

P.S. Those who have not returned cards showing their proper legal name, address and phone numbers, please do so. The information is for purposes of our records and to make sure that correct information is submitted to the commonwealth of Massachusetts.

### **August 1979**

Newton Conservators, Inc.  
Secretary's Minutes  
Meeting of August 28, 1979  
at home of Joan and Ed Lerner  
35 Amherst Road, Newton

**Present:** John Bliss, Harry Crosby, Bob Ricles, Ron Bocage, Fran Hints, David Jackson, Ed Lerner, Ted Tedesco, Richard Primack, Peter Harrington, Joan Lerner

**Secretary's minutes** of meeting of July 24, 1979, correction - name Fran Hinst corrected to read Hints. MOTION that the secretary's minutes of the meeting of July

24, 1979, subject to the above correction, be accepted, was made from the floor.  
ACTION: APPROVED.

**Treasurer's report** dated August, 1979, showing balance as of August 28, 1070 of \$30,168.16, was submitted. MOTION from the floor that the treasurer's report for August, 1979 be accepted. ACTION: Treasurer's report ACCEPTED.

Report from the **Special Committee to audit accounts** of the corporation: the balance sheet for calendar year 1978, as distributed at the annual meeting, is correct and accurate. MOTION from the floor to approve the report of the special committee to audit the accounts of the corporation. ACTION: APPROVED.

**Report of the Novitiate Party Committee** - Harry Crosby - picnic to be held September 16, 1979 from 12: 30 to 3 p.m. Senator Paul Tsongas guest speaker (1:30 - 2:30).

Schedule of events:

12: 00 - 1:00 kites, soccer, nature walks, etc.  
1:00 - 1:30 picnic lunch  
1:30 - 2:30 Senator Tsongas  
2:30 - end outdoor dancing.

Food: six foot subs, soft drinks, coffee, tea, dessert - brownies.

MOTION by Richard Primack (after discussion) there be no charge for food and that picnickers thus be encouraged to join the Conservators or make another donation.  
ACTION: APPROVED - two negative votes.

MOTION by Richard Primack (after discussion) that the committee be authorized to expend funds for food, advertising, entertainment and other necessary items in an amount of approximately \$750.00. ACTION: APPROVED.

MOTION by David Jackson (after discussion) the treasurer be authorized to advance the chairman (Harry Crosby) of the Novitiate Party Committee such funds as he may request. ACTION: APPROVED.

**Report** by Lisle Baker: **Federal funds for acquisition of open space** have been cut in half by the U.S. House Appropriations Committee. Some of these funds may be restored by the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee.

**State Urban Self Help Funds:** Last year two million dollars for acquisition of open space. This year an additional five million dollars was added by the Mass. Senate. That amount was cut by the Massachusetts House. A conference committee may be expected to add back the five million dollars but allow that it be spent for acquisition and/or development.

Because the by-laws strictly limit lobbying and political activities, NO ACTION was taken on the above reported information.

Recommendation from the floor that by-laws be amended to allow for participation in political issues along guidelines established by the Internal Revenue code.

**Report of the Financial Investment Committee:** Funds presently held in certificate of deposit accounts are not subject to current withdrawal without penalty until after 1980.

Nest meeting of the Board is scheduled for September 25, 1979.

Submitted by:  
Peter F. Harrington, Secretary

### **September, 1979**

Newton Conservators, Inc.  
Minutes of meeting of September 25, 1979  
At the home of John Bliss, 9 Lewis Terrace, Newton

**Present:** John Bliss, Ron Bocage, Bob Ricles, Ruth Heespelink, Ted Tedesco, Harry Crosby, Ed Lerner, Peter Harrington Cay Morrison, Joan Lerner, Lisle Baker.

**Secretary's Report** of Minutes of Meeting of August 28, 1979, clarified by adding:

Under the question of lobbying, the by-laws of the Newton Conservators, Inc. Article 2, reads in part as follows:

"No part of the activities of the corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation except locally as incidental to the above stated purposes, nor participating or intervening on behalf of any political candidate..."

MOTION: That the Secretary's minutes of the meeting of August 28, 1979, subject to the above clarification, be accepted, was made from the floor. ACTION: APPROVED.

**Treasurer's Report:** Dated September, 1979, showing a balance as of September 25, 1979 of \$29,443.52 was submitted. MOTION from the floor that the Treasurer's report of September, 1979, showing expenditures in excess of \$750.00 for the Novitiate picnic be accepted. ACTION: Treasurer's report ACCEPTED.

MOTION: That the Treasurer be authorized to pay such additional bills related to the picnic as are submitted and may be reasonable and fair. ACTION: APPROVED.

COMMENDATION: Recommended from the floor that Joan Lerner be commended for the idea of the picnic and sponsoring and strongly supporting the picnic.

**Report - Arboretum Fund** - the treasurer reports that he is still awaiting a report and bill from Ann Roesner.

**News Report by the President:** Joel Lerner, Director of the Division of Conservation Services, and Barry Canner, Newton City Planner, met with the Conservators and others to view the **Novitiate land**. Mr. Lerner also viewed the **Chestnut Hill Country Club**. Mr. Lerner appeared to show interest in seeing both parcels be made available for public purposes.

Next Meeting - October 23, 1979 at the home of Cay Morrison, 1801 Beacon Street, Waban, Mass.

Submitted by,  
Peter F. Harrington  
Secretary

### **October, 1979**

Meeting of the Board, Newton Conservators, Inc.  
Tuesday, October 23, 1979, 7:45 p.m.  
home of Cay Morrison, 1801 Beacon St., Waban

Note dated November 5, 1979: The last meeting of the Board of Directors of the Newton Conservators did not have sufficient members to obtain a quorum. The meeting was adjourned until Tuesday, November 13, 1979 at 7:45 :.M. at the home of Cay Morrison, 1801 Beacon Street, Waban, Mass. Your attendance would be appreciated:

Peter F. Harrington  
Secretary

[The agenda for October had been:

7:45	Come to Order - Secretary's Report, Treasurer's Report
8:00	Novitiate Park, Cay M., Ted T. to bring us up to date
8:20	Conservator Calendar - Sally Barnett (fresh copy enclosed)
8:35	Newsletter - Ed Lerner
8:50	Follow-up to Barry Canner meeting
9:05	Arboretum Fund, Future Use
9:15	Open Space Plan, Next Steps - John Bliss
9:25	Chestnut Hill Country Club, Latest News - Lisle B.
9:35	Open Space Brochure - John Bliss, Harry Crosby
9:50	Other Staniford St., etc.

10:00 Adjourn ]

**November 1979**

Minutes of Meeting of Newton Conservators  
Date: November 13, 1979  
at the home of Cay Morrison at 1801 Beacon Street

**Present:** Cay Morriton, Ted Tedesco, Fran Hinsta, Lisle Baker, David Jackson, Jean Artin, Sally Barnett, John Steward, Bart Hague, John Bliss, Bob Ricles, Peter Harrington.

? **Treasurer's report.**

MOTION: that the **secretary's report** be accepted: ACTION: report ACCEPTED.

The **Conservators calendar** was discussed. Anyone with information they feel should be included in calendar should contact Sally Barnett.

The **By-laws committee** was asked to present a proposal that would change the fiscal year so that it would match the election year.

Lisle Baker reported that the \$5 million Urban Self Help Open Space Acquisition Fund has passed the state legislature. (This was later vetoed by the governor.) Also, he reported that the betterment assessment legislation also passed the legislature.

MOTION: by Ted Tedesco to authorize the reasonable expenditure up to \$100.00 for an **open space bus tour**, to be sponsored by Newton Conservation Commission and the Newton Conservators in the spring of 1980. AMENDMENT by Bob Ricles that the Conservators are to appoint a committee to work with the Newton Conservation Commission to help with the event, members to be appointed by the president. ACTION: APPROVED unanimously.

MOTION: by David Jackson: "In recognition of her valuable and long-standing contribution in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the City of Newton, in support of conservation, **Helen Heyn be elected honorary life member** of the Newton Conservators, Inc." ACTION: APPROVED unanimously.

**Report** of John Bliss. The president has received letters from Harry Crosby and Andree Wilson indicating that for personal reasons, they would like to resign from the Board of Directors of the Newton Conservators, Inc. ACTION: letters referred to committee.

**Report** by Ted Tedesco. A question has been raised concerning whether or not Section 11 of the special permit issued by the Newton Board of Aldermen concerning the **Novitiate land** has been adequately complied with concerning access by the public and preservation of the open space. ACTION: referred to committee.



**Report - Open Space Plan of the City of Newton:** The Conservation Commission meeting of Nov. 29, 1979 will accept a report from Barry Canner on Planning Department efforts in developing the open space plan.

Next meeting of the Board of Conservators will be December 11, 1979 at the home of Ted Tedesco, 80 Atwood Ave., Newtonville. Main topic for agenda: Best use of parcel of land located on Staniford Street, Auburndale.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter F. Harrington

**December 1979**

Newton Conservators, Inc.  
Secretary's Minutes  
December 11, 1979  
at the home of Ted Tedesco  
80 Atwood Ave., Newton

**Present:** John Bliss, Ron Bocage, Rodney Barker, Priscilla Leith, AnnaMaria Abernathy, Lisle Baker, Ted Tedesco, Leonard Zion, Ed Lerner, Bart Hague, Cay Morrison, Bob Ricles, Peter Harrington.

**Attending Guests:** John MacIsaac, builder; Paul Carroll, architect; William E. Halliday, attorney; Alderman Carol Ann Shea, Alderman Richard J. McGrath, Terry Seligman, Stan Adelman, and Peter Robinson.

MOTION: The **Treasurer's report** be accepted. ACTION: Report ACCEPTED.

MOTION: **Secretary's report** be accepted. ACTION: Report ACCEPTED.

Report - Ed Lerner: **Newsletter** is in the mail.

Report of John Bliss, President - The Newton Conservators have been invited to submit proposals concerning the **open space plan to the Conservation Commission**, and the recommendations must be submitted before January 24, 1980.

Nest meeting of the Board of Directors of Newton Conservators will be on January 15, 1980 at the home of Ted Tedesco, 80 Atwood Ave., Newtonville, Mass.

**Presentation and Discussion concerning Staniford Street.**

Attorney Halliday introduced John MacIsaac, owner of Staniford Street property, and developer, and Paul Carroll, architect. Attorney Halliday gave a brief summation of the history of development proposals for the property as follows:

- 1) In the early 1950's Arthur Gregorian first proposed development of the land.
- 2) Various other parties became involved and litigation resulted, involving DiCarlo and Ginsburg. During the course of the litigation, the City zoned the land to Residence "C."
- 3) Arnold Ginsburg requested a hardship variance to develop twenty-four large 2-family structures on the parcel. The variance was denied.
- 4) MacIsaac then became the owner. His last proposal for 140 units was denied by the city. He appealed the decision under the snob zoning statute and claims that he now has necessary permits and authority to build low income housing, which will be subsidized through the Housing Authority.

There were neighbors present who indicated that it was their belief and understanding that he did not have financing to go forward with the project.

Attorney Halliday then presented a new proposal to construct 90 units of town houses, which would be sold at market value. He indicated that this proposal was 64% less than the original number of units. He presented an architectural rendering which showed the proposed project and indicated the parcel would contain 78 two-bedroom units and 12 three-bedroom units.

Total land area is 439,662 square feet. The project would result in the following use of the land.

Building coverage	54,000 sq. ft. or 12.5% of land area
Parking	25,400 sq. ft. or 5.8% of land area
Roads	42,640 sq. ft. or 9.7% of land area
Open space	<u>317,642 sq. ft. or 72.0% of land area</u>
	439,662 sq. ft. 100.0% of land area [Addition is incorrect]

Mr. Halliday indicated there would be approximately one half acre of additional open space if the 90 units townhouse proposal were accepted rather than the 140 unit low income proposal.

The plan showed a great number of trees which were indicated to be existing on the site. At the present time the developer does not have a tree or vegetation inventory.

Questions concerning the public acquisition of the parcel came up when the Conservators said that the Staniford Street parcel has been high on their priority acquisition list for a number of years. Attorney Halliday indicated that the HUD appraisal put a value of \$6,000.00 per housing unit (x 140) for land value. Mr. MacIsaac indicated that there has been an appraisal by the city of Newton but he was not privy to the information.

Alderman McGrath stated that he was concerned about losing the green belt that is a natural bridge that connects the Auburndale flowed meadow and the Auburndale playground and open recreation area.

Alderman Carol Ann Shea stated that she was concerned about losing the 8 acres of open space that abuts the Auburndale playground. She said that in her opinion, there was a possibility for development in the remaining 2 acres bordering Staniford Street.

Submitted by:  
Peter F. Harrington, Secretary

### **January 1980**

Minutes of Meeting of Newton Conservators

Date: January 15, 1980

At the home of Ted Tedesco

80 Atwood Ave., Newton

**Present:** John Bliss, Sally Barnett, Rodney Barker, Cay Morrison, Ted Tedesco, Lisle Baker, Ruth Heespelink, Ron Bocage, Ed Lerner, Fran Hintsa.

**Report** of Lisle Baker concerning status of **Chestnut Hill Country Club**. Proposed sending a letter to John Bewick, Secretary of Environmental Affairs, stating the citywide and Newton Conservators' support for funding the Chestnut Hill Country Club. Sally Barnett stated **Novitiate funding** should be top priority. CONSENSUS - both projects to be included in letter.

Discussion of **Staniford Street development proposals** based on meeting with John McIsaac and Associates and S.O.S. neighborhood group on December 22, 1979:

A number of our questions remain unanswered. It is not clear that the developer will have adequate financing for either the low and moderate income housing or for the townhouse proposal. Furthermore, the state Department of Environmental Engineering has not issued a superceding order of conditions for development near the wetland. The developer, John McIsaac, and his associates, are not interested in discussing the value of the land or the possibility of a swap of city-owned land more appropriate for development.

It was noted that the Conservators' Open Space Plan of 1974 named the Staniford Street parcel third in priority for city acquisition after Norumbega and the Novitiate. With the Novitiate and Chestnut Hill C.C. purchases still pending, however, it is premature now to push for city acquisition.

MOTION: After hearing presentation by owners of Staniford Street property and S.O.S. group, the Board now finds no reason to change its existing policy of long-

standing, that the City should acquire the property. ACTION: Motion PASSED unanimously. Letter to be sent to owners and S.O.S. notifying them of action.

MOTION: Secretary Peter Harrington be commended for the quality of minutes of December 11 meeting. ACTION: PASSED unanimously.

MOTION: The **Treasurer's report** be accepted. ACTION: Report ACCEPTED.

Cay Morrison - **membership** dues are due. Letter by John Bliss concerning past activities and dues notices, to be sent to all members.

**Tour of Open Spaces** - Helen Heyn would like input on date for tour. Suggested week before Earth Day (April ?). Note: all Conservator Board members are welcome to use the bus.

**Report on Open Space Plan** - doesn't explain how they "will protect and save golf courses" - should be a list of land to be saved. Thursday, Jan. 24 at 8:00 P.M. - City Hall, meeting - Conservation Commission, Conservators are urged to attend. Open Space Plan to be discussed.

MOTION: To authorize John Bliss to send letter and statement of Conservators' position on Draft Open Space Plan to Conservation Commission (see handout). ACTION: PASSED unanimously.

Ted Tedesco - an **update on Conservators' calendar**. There should be a meeting (prior) to annual meeting to vote in members, as per by-laws. **By-laws** have not been revised.

**Audit Committee** - need not be appointed until financial report prepared.

**Membership**. Letter should be sent to all members requesting dues be paid by April. After April, non-paid members will become non-voting members. If dues are not paid by July, names will be removed from list. Sally Barnett reported 235 paid up members and 150 non-paid. Should be January newsletter reminding people to pay dues.

Nominating Committee to be appointed.

John Bliss stated need for brochure concerning Conservation lands.

Respectfully submitted,  
Fran Hints, Secretary pro tempore

### **February 1980**

Newton Conservators, Inc.  
Minutes of Meeting  
Date: February 26, 1980

at the home of Sally Barnett  
34 Westminster Rd., Newton Centre

**Present:** John Bliss, Ron Bocage, Ted Tedesco, Joan Lerner, Fran Hints, Rodney Barker, Ed Lerner, Ruth Heespelink, Jean Thompson, Lisle Baker, Peter Harrington, Sally Barnett.

MOTION: that the **treasurer's report** be accepted. ACTION: Report ACCEPTED.

MOTION: that the **secretary's report** be accepted. ACTION: Report ACCEPTED.

Report of the Treasurer that they received from the city \$656.06, money previously paid to the city for taxes on Ordway Park.

Report of Joan Lerner re: **Novitiate Land**. The City of Newton has until June 30, 1980 to complete purchase of the Novitiate land. After that time the funding assistance for the city expires.

Report of Fran Hints. An **Open Space Plan map** is expected to be prepared by April 27, 1980.

MOTION by Lisle Baker that Fran Hints be authorized to prepare a map, explanatory brochure, letter and form requesting membership for review at the next meeting.  
ACTION: motion APPROVED.

Guests: Norman Wolfe of Newton and Kenneth Campbell, golf pro, discussed a proposal to divide an 81 acre parcel of land (**Chestnut Hill Golf Course**) to construct 60 units of housing on approximately 11 acres and an 18 hole golf course on the remaining 70 acres. The 11 acres would be sold to Mel A. Barkan d/b/a Barkan Properties for \$1,200,000.00. They would hope to get \$125,000.00 from the Commonwealth and \$125,000.00 matching funds from the city to develop an 18 hole golf course, which would be owned by a private charitable corporation.

MOTION by Lisle Baker that the Newton Conservators support the rezoning of the Chestnut Hill Golf Course subject to the preservation of 70 acres for open space.  
APPROVED: 7 to 1.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter F. Harrington  
Secretary

### **March 1980**

Newton Conservators, Inc.  
Minutes of Special Meeting of March 11, 1980  
at the home of John Bliss

9 Lewis Street, Newton, Mass.

**Present:** John Bliss, Tammy Bliss, John Stewart, Bart Hague, Bob Ricles, Sally Barnett, Cay Morrison, Fran Hints, Jean Thompson. Ruth Heespelink

Report of the president, submitting a **letter to members** concerning activities and encouraging payment of dues and seeking new members. MOTION by Cay Morrison to approve proposed letter. ACTION: letter APPROVED.

MOTION to appoint a **nominating committee** of Jean Thompson, Tammy Bliss, Joan Lerner and Lisle Baker. ACTION: APPROVED.

MOTION of Bart Hague to establish an **audit committee** of John Stewart, Bob Ricles and Ted Tedesco. ACTION: Motion APPROVED.

Report by Cay Morrison on **Novitiate property**: The State has approved 80% funding from Urban Self-Help Land Acquisition funds. There has been favorable action from the city of Newton Planning Department, and the Finance Committee of the Board of Aldermen on the request that the property be taken by eminent domain.

MOTION by Cay Morrison that the Conservators appropriate an amount equivalent to two tuitions for the **Environmental Science Program** and such monies be distributed by the program directors. ACTION: motion APPROVED.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter F. Harrington  
Secretary

**late March, 1980**

Newton Conservators, Inc.  
Minutes of Board Meeting  
Date: March 25, 1980  
at the home of Ron Bocage,  
12 Pleasant Street, West Newton, Ma. 02165

**Present:** John Bliss, Ted Tedesco, Joan Lerner, Ed Lerner, Sally Barnett, Ron Bocage, Jean Thompson, Fran Hints, Cay Morrison, Bart Hague, Lisle Baker, Peter F. Harrington. Guest: Peter Robinson.

MOTION: That the **Secretary's Reports** for February 26, 1980 and March 11, 1980 be accepted. ACTION: Reports ACCEPTED. Subject to correction that the letter to members was approved as revised at the meeting of March 11, 1980.

**Nomination Committee:** Sally Barnett and Deborah Howard were added as members of the Nominating Committee. Nominating Committee will hold its first meeting April 3, 1980.

**Report on Novitiate:** Board of Alderman has voted to take the property by eminent domain. Law Department is searching the titles. The Engineering Department is determining the bounds.

MOTION by Joan Lerner that Novitiate Committee explore the idea of a July 4th celebration of the acquisition of the Novitiate parcel. ACTION: Motion APPROVED.

**Chestnut Hill Country Club:** Report of Chestnut Hill Country Club by Lisle Baker. The Board of Aldermen has held a public hearing concerning acquisition. A major question is whether or not the golf course will continue to exist. Those concerned about the preservation of the golf course and/or the preservation of open space should contact local alderman.

MOTION: John Bliss is to write a letter to the editor and send copies to members of the Newton Conservators concerning the question of preservation of open space at Chestnut Hill Country Club. ACTION: Motion APPROVED.

Report on Conservation Commission's Open Space Plan: The Newton Conservation Commission is holding an additional meeting on May 8, 1980 concerning the open space plan for the City of Newton. Those conservators concerned with this issue should be present at the hearing to present their views. The Open Space Plan Commission of the Newton Conservators' consists of John Bliss, Ted Tedesco, Sally Baker and Joan Lerner.

MOTION: That the Newton Conservators notify the Conservation Commission that they wish to preserve existing golf courses as open space parcels. ACTION: APPROVED.

MOTION: To establish an **Outing Committee** to plan tours and outings at various parcels of open space. ACTION. Motion APPROVED. Nominated to serve as co-chair persons: Cay Morrison and Sally Barnett - accepted.

Report on **Open Space brochure** by Fran Hints. Prices for printing the brochure vary from \$1,130.00 for one color to \$1,480.00 for three color brochure. A brochure with a tear off section for membership applications, printed on a 14 x 11 sheet will cost \$1,700.00 for 25,000 copies (two colors).

MOTION: That Fran Hints has been authorized to expend up to \$2,000.00 for the design, planning and printing of the Open Space Brochure. ACTION: Motion ACCEPTED.

MOTION: By Lisle Baker to authorize John Bliss to spend up to \$250.00 for public relations advice from Mark Bender, concerning immediate strategies to implement policies and procedures to protect open space. ACTION: Motion ACCEPTED.

MOTION: By John Bliss to increase by \$20.00 the amount voted at the March 11, 1980 meeting for an expenditure, so that the amount equal an amount equivalent to two tuitions for the **Environmental Science Program** and that such monies be distributed by the Program Directors in amounts to be determined. ACTION: Motion APPROVED.

Report on **bus tour of open space parcels** of the city: Bus tour is to take place April 27, 1980, leaving City Hall at 1:30 p.m.

**Report - Audit Committee:** Ted Tedesco, who was appointed to the Audit Committee while absent from the meeting, questioned his appointment and disclosed that he had co-signed most of the checks drawn against the Conservators' account during the present year, and said that he thought that he had sufficient reason to disqualify himself, because it appeared that he was not a disinterested person regarding the accounts of the Conservators. He requested that he be removed from the Committee. ACTION: After discussion, request DENIED.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter F. Harrington  
Secretary

#### **April 1980**

Newton Conservators, Inc.  
Minutes of Meeting  
Date: April 29, 1980  
at the home of Lisle Baker  
137 Suffolk Road, Chestnut Hill, MA

**Present:** John Bliss, Alex Zimmer, Bob Rickles, Lisle Baker, Ron Bocage, Cay Morrison, Sally Barnett, Bart Hague, Fran Hints, Jean Thompson, Ted Tedesco, Peter Harrington

MOTION that the **Treasurer's Report** for March and April, 1980 be accepted.  
ACTION: Report ACCEPTED.

MOTION that **Secretary's Report** be accepted subject to the following corrections: Name Sally Barker be corrected to Sally Barnett. Name Bob Hague be corrected to Bart Hague. The Treasurer's reports be corrected to read Secretary's reports. On page 2, Open Space Commission be corrected to read Open Space Plan Commission. Marker Vendor to be corrected to read Mark Bender. ACTION: Report as amended, ACCEPTED.

**Report on Chestnut Hill Country Club** by Lisle Baker: The Newton Board of Aldermen, Land Use Committee, April 28, 1980, adopted a resolution requesting the Mayor to authorize a bond issue of \$800,000.00 for the acquisition of 71 acres of the Chestnut Hill Country Club. The remaining section of land will be sold to Barkan for the



development of 40 units of housing for \$650,000.00. This will provide sufficient funds to pay off the existing mortgages and interest, back taxes owed to the city and leave a \$100,000 reserve fund to guarantee maintenance of the golf course. The developer, Barkan, will construct four units of low-income housing, one on-site and three off-site. There is some serious question as to whether or not the resolution will obtain necessary votes from the Board of Aldermen.

Lisle Baker has been working with members of the Board of Aldermen and the community. He intends to propose an amendment which would request the city to authorize a bond issue of \$700,000.00, providing Barkan pay \$700,000 for the acquisition of land. That Barkan be permitted to construct 42 units (one unit on-site and three off-site), 25 units on Algonquin Road and 17 on Kendrick Street. That the reserve fund be reduced to \$50,000.00. The city would receive the following reimbursements to defray the cost of the bond issue:

\$125,000.00 from the Federal Government  
\$200,000.00 from assessments against abutters  
\$185,000.00 in back taxes due the city

The new construction is expected to return between \$100,000.00 and \$200,000.00 per year in taxes.

**MOTION:** In order to encourage the acquisition of the Chestnut Hill Country Club for open space by the City of Newton, the Newton Conservators, Inc. commits itself to contribute \$1,000.00 to be paid to a Reserve Fund to be established by the Newton Commonwealth Improvement Foundation (Massachusetts Charitable Corporation) for purposes of preserving and maintaining Open Space at the Chestnut Hill Country Club. Such contribution shall be subject to the acquisition of the property by the City of Newton and the creation of such a reserve fund. **ACTION: APPROVED.** (Alderman Lisle Baker excused from voting and Alex Zimmer, having a present financial interest in the Chestnut Hill Country Club, excused from voting.)

**Report on Novitiate:** Cay Morrison said the dedication ceremony will be postponed until the Novitiate property is actually acquired. The acquisition is not expected to be completed until the end of June, 1980. Signs identifying the park should be ready in mid-May.

**Report on Open Space Bus Tour:** Sally Barnett said 60 to 70 people, more than a busload, viewed various designated parcels of open space. The tour was extremely successful. President John Bliss extended compliments from the Conservators to the Committee for their work on publicity and their cooperation with the Conservation Commission to make the tour a success.

**Report on Meeting with Mark Bender:** The Board of the Conservators should meet and determine the goals and objectives of the Conservators prior to meeting with Mark

Bender to determine and explore various public relations methods that may be used to implement the goals.

MOTION: To contact all Board members to inform them of a special meeting to be held May 7, 1980, at the home of Sally Baker to discuss the plans and future priorities of the Newton Conservators and to assess the value of obtaining expert advice from Mark Bender. ACTION: Motion APPROVED.

**Report on Open Space Brochure:** Fran Hints presented a preliminary draft of the Open Space Brochure. She indicated that the final versions will be printed in two colors, blue and green. Streets will be dark blue, water light blue, the layout design and verbiage were accepted and noted by Fran Hints.

**Audit Committee:** Resignation of Ted Tedesco from the Audit Committee accepted for reasons set forth March 25, 1980 and recorded in the minutes of said meeting. Alex Zimmer appointed to Audit Committee. Audit Committee to meet on May 13, 1980 at 12 Pleasant Street, West Newton, MA at 7:30 p.m.

**Report on City of Newton Open Space Plan:** John Bliss reported the Newton Conservation [?Commission] will meet May 22, 1980 to take testimony and discuss the Open Space Plan of the City of Newton. He requested any Conservators wishing to have an input into the Conservator testimony for the Open Space Plan contact him.

MOTION: The **annual meeting** of the Newton Conservators be held on May 24, 1980 at 6:00 p.m. at the Newton Commonwealth Golf Club (Chestnut Hill Country Club), 91 Algonquin Road, Chestnut Hill, MA. ACTION: Motion ACCEPTED.

**Report of Adopt-a-Brook Program:** John Bliss reported a communication from the Charles River Watershed Association requesting the Newton Conservators join their "Adopt-a-Brook" program. He suggested that Rita Barron be invited to the annual meeting to discuss the program with the membership. ACTION: Suggestion ACCEPTED that Rita Barron be invited as guest speaker at annual meeting.

Report of Outings Committee: Sally Barnett reported that the Newton Conservators will sponsor an outing (tour) at Houghton Garden on May 15, 1980 at 7:00 p.m. It is expected that at that time many digitalis wild flowers will be in bloom. The garden is located near the Webster Conservation area and may be reached by pathway south of the intersection of Clovelly Road and Suffolk Road. The garden was acquired by the city in 1979.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter F. Harrington  
Secretary

**May 1980**

The Board of Directors of Newton Conservators will hold a Special Meeting, Wednesday, May 7, 1980 at 8:00 P.M. at the home of Sally Barnett, 34 Westminster Rd., Newton Center, MA, to discuss and propose priorities and future direction of Newton Conservators and to assess the value of services of Advertising Specialist, Mark Bender.

[No minutes of this special meeting, however, are in the files.]

**late May, 1980**

Newton Conservators, Inc.  
Annual Meeting  
May 27, 1980  
Chestnut Hill Country Club

**Present:** Sally Barnett, Lisle Baker, Ruth Heespelink, Ruth Misch, Ted Tedesco, Cay Morrison, Ed Lerner, Joan Lerner, Fran Hints, Bart Hague, Rodney Barker, Bob Ricles, Jean Blumenreich, Bob Smith, Jean Thompson, Fran Lamonica, Ann Gailumas, Virginia Taplin, Patricia Hunter, John Stewart, Peter Harrington, Rita Barron, Ron Bocage, Bea Flaschner, David Jackson.

John Bliss opened the meeting and called for the report of the Nomination Committee.

**Nomination Committee** submitted the names set forth in the notice of the meeting and the names of Pat Hunter and Ruth Misch for officers and directors of the corporation. A MOTION was made to waive the requirement for written ballot. ACTION: APPROVED.

MOTION to elect officers and directors nominated by the Nominating Committee. ACTION: ELECTED.

John Bliss was recognized for his outstanding service during the past three years as President of Newton Conservators and presented with a gift certificate for the New England Book Fair.

**The Report of the President:** Sally Barnett called for immediate action with regard to the **City of Newton Open Space Plan** presently pending before the Conservation Commission. She re-established the Open Space Plan Committee of the Newton Conservators. John Bliss volunteered to chair the committee. The following dates and meetings were established:

June 12, 1980 - The Newton Conservation Commission will receive the report by the Newton Planning Department concerning the Municipal Open Space Plan.

June 17, 1980 - The Newton Conservators Open Space Plan Committee will meet at the home of John Bliss, 9 Lewis Street, Newton, at 7:45 P.M. to discuss the proposed Open Space Plan and make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

June 24, 1980 - The Board of Directors of Newton Conservators will meet at the home of Joan and Ed Lerner at 35 Amherst Road, Waban at 7:45 P.M. to establish a position concerning the Municipal Open Space Plan.

June 26, 1980 - A public hearing will be held by the Newton Conservation Commission on the proposed Municipal Open Space Plan.

MOTION: The Newton Conservators request 50 copies of the Municipal Open Space Report from the Planning Department of Newton for distribution to their 350 members.  
ACTION: APPROVED.

**Visitation Committee:** In late July, the Newton Conservators will sponsor a visit to the Green Power Farm in Weston. In August, Newton Conservators will sponsor an event in Auburndale designed to increase public awareness of the river front property in Auburndale.

**Audit Committee Report:** Submitted. MOTION: To receive the Audit Committee Report. ACTION: APPROVED.

**Treasurer's Report for May and the Annual Report of the Treasurer.** Submitted. MOTION to accept the Treasurer's Report for May. ACTION: Report ACCEPTED.

MOTION to receive the Annual Report and vote of acceptance to be DEFERRED until the Directors' Meeting of June 24, 1980. ACTION: APPROVED.

**Report on Chestnut Hill Country Club:** Resolution by the Board of Aldermen recommending the City of Newton purchasing approximately 70 acres of the golf club is now before Mayor for his approval. Action is expected within 7 to 10 days.

**Report on Novitiate:** The Board of Aldermen has properly voted to file necessary documents for land taking of the proposed Novitiate Park, and such action has been approved by the Mayor.

MOTION that a suitable recognition for the help and participation in the acquisition of the Novitiate property for public use by public officials be prepared and presented at some future event. ACTION: APPROVED.

MOTION: \$150.00 to \$200.00 be appropriated for a suitable **memorial for Jean Crosby** and recognition generally of her participation and contribution to the community and specifically in recognition of her participation and contribution to the Newton Conservators. ACTION: APPROVED.

Joan Lerner and Cay Morrison appointed to co-chair committee to plan celebration of acquisition of Novitiate property.

**Guest Speaker Rita Barron, Charles River Watershed Association.** Rita Barron discussed the Charles River Watershed Association's Adopt-a-Brook Program, which is designed to encourage various groups to take concern over the preservation and restoration of various books within the Charles River Watershed. Tributaries of the Charles River are designated Class B and should be able to accommodate fishing big fish and swimming. She described the program as "a sort of riparian vigilante society," which is intended to involve a lot of people at a level of interest that is manageable to them. Such activities may include identifying the brook, its history, its geography and topography; identify flora and fauna within the area of the brook; and to improve and promote public interest in the preservation of the adopted brook.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter F. Harrington, Secretary