

Minutes of the Board Meeting  
July 14, 2010  
at the home of Jane Sender  
47 Kingswood Road, Auburndale

Attending: Jane Sender (presiding), AnnaMaria Abernathy, Margaret Albright, Octo Barnett, Dan Brody, Henry Finch, Pete Gilmore, Bill Hagar, Frank Howard, Deb Howard, Ted Kuklinski, Alison Leary, Patricia Robinson, Larry Smith, Willis Wang

The meeting began at 7:45.

**Approval of the Minutes of June 9:** The minutes were approved after the correction that the Audubon Society's study cost is \$5700, not \$5900.

- Eric, who was absent, will be the managing editor who asks members to write on subjects as they come up, not only just in time for the newsletter.
- Dan will put them on the Conservator web site, and
- Ted will link them to the E-newsletter.
- Eric will assemble the articles for the printed newsletter, and
- Pat will do the layout.
- Bonnie will continue to produce the newsletter.

**Trail Guide Revision:** Jane said that Judy Hepburn, Lucy Caldwell-Stair, and Pat are working on the revision. It was the sense of the meeting to leave to the committee the decision of which spaces should be added. Dan said that the list of possible additions should be proposed to the board to approve which ones are large enough to include in the guide. He can add the Google coordinates for the web site.

**Almanac:** Jane recommended that we reprint 500 copies of the almanac and drop the price to \$19.95. A MOTION to this effect was SECONDED and APPROVED unanimously.

**Brochure:** Alison has drafted a revision of the brochure which will be finalized before we can announce merchants' discounts – so far discounts have been offered by Larry Smith for the Canoe Service and by Peter Kastner for Heritage Maps; Harris Cyclery also seems agreeable. The decision was to simply state that discounts are available. A MOTION to print \$100 worth of cards was SECONDED and unanimously APPROVED.

**Planned Giving** Jane would like to put a suggestion for planned giving on our web site and in our annual renewal letter. A MOTION to do this was SECONDED and APPROVED unanimously.

**50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration:** Jane has contacted Peggy Sagan and Classic Communications about getting help on this.

1) for the annual meeting: Peggy organized the celebration of Habitat's opening in Newton, and has worked with several Audubon organizations. She would charge \$25/hr. and estimates about 100 hours. Jane pointed out that we have appropriated \$2000 for speakers' fees that can be used this way.

2) Classic Communications can do something special, such as biodiversity programs. Pete and Larry volunteered to work with Jane on this. Bill added the idea of getting kids involved, e.g., with games to identify fauna.

A MOTION to engage Peggy Sagan to organize our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary annual meeting was SECONDED and unanimously APPROVED.

a second MOTION to explore, with Classic Communications, doing a community event by Newton Conservators to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary was SECONDED and unanimously APPROVED.

The hope is to make the events largely self-supporting, e.g., with a silent auction at the dinner. Jane will hold meetings to brainstorm.

Bill Hagar suggested an essay and photography contest for Newton students, centering on some aspect of NC achievements. He had been involved in such a contest in Philadelphia that achieved great success.

**Newton Resource Guide:** A new edition is being prepared, and Pat explained that a business-card insertion costs \$150, while a quarter page is \$500. A MOTION to get the \$500 entry was SECONDED and unanimously APPROVED.

**Parks & Rec. Nahanton Park/Angino Farm working group update:** Jane reported that the working group has proposed a study of the park, and the Parks & Rec. Commission has agreed to put out a RFP for the project.

**Walks with kids – Jenny Craddock:** Alison has talked with Jenny Craddock, who is very excited that NC may get involved with programs for 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. The 1<sup>st</sup> graders are introduced to habitats. Pete Gilmore has volunteered for this. K-8 classes have Life Science programs. Whatever we do has to be aligned with the State curriculum framework. Alison will keep the group updated.

**Fall Walks:** Alison will organize the programs. Larry Smith agreed to have a September canoe trip from the Charles River Canoe Service's new program at Nahanton Park..

**League of Women Voters request to co-sponsor forums on water and sewer issues:** A MOTION to co-sponsor the two forums in September and October was SECONDED and unanimously approved.

### **New Business**

- Ted mentioned an **invitation by Bloomingdale** to participate again in their annual day for non-profits; everyone agreed that this is not our kind of thing.
- Alison made a fervent plea to work on the **Plastics and Bottle Bill expansion.**
- Pat brought up the **signage on our properties and CR's.** For our properties (Ordway Park is marked; Awtrey and Dexter Woods need signage) the sign should include the name of the park. Jane will review the Mass. Audubon CR reports for their suggestions about signage. For CRs that we protect, we could use a generic sign. Pat will research the costs.

Octo is concerned about city-owned CRs which will lapse if not extended. He and AnnaMaria will look into this.

**Adjournment:** at 9 PM>

Respectfully submitted,  
AnnaMaria Abernathy, secretary

NEWTON CONSERVATORS, Inc.  
Minutes of the Board Meeting  
September 15, 2010, 7:30 PM  
Newton City Hall Room 202

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Attending: Jane Sender (presiding), AnnaMaria Abernathy, Bonnie Carter, Henry Finch, Frank Howard, Katherine Howard, Ted Kuklinski, Alison Leary, Eric Reenstierna, Patricia Robinson, Larry Smith,

Also present was Peggy Sagan,  
The meeting began at 7:45.

**Approval of the Minutes of July 14:** The minutes were approved as written.

**Trail Guide Revision** (Jane and Pat): The new edition is in the final stages of proofreading. After discussion, it was the sense of the meeting to authorize the executive committee to decide the sale price.

It was also the sense of the meeting to authorize the executive committee to decide on the details about offering a member benefit of purchasing the Almanac and the trail guide through the web at a reduced price.

**Conservators' brochure and promotional cards:** The brochure is about to be ready to print; Pat will discuss the number of copies depending on the price. Numerous copies of the cards were distributed to those present, along with extra copies of the latest Newsletter, to give to new neighbors et al. to introduce them to NC.

**50<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting planning:**

- Peggy Sagan will work with us on planning/organizing the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary annual dinner, and joined in the discussion.
- The meeting place has not yet been decided. Ted will see about reserving Post 440 for either May 25 or June 1, while other possibilities are still being investigated: Lasell (Alison); Windsor Club (Pat and Henry), and Newton North High School (Peggy).
- Peggy explained the idea of holding a silent auction and having hors d'oeuvres instead of a sit-down dinner.
- She also expounded ideas for having sponsors to be listed in the commemorative anniversary program (attached). Board members suggested

adding some lower categories, e.g., Friends: \$100 for one line in the program.

The program would also list the offerings for the silent auction.

Henry made a MOTION that we have a silent auction. This was SECONDED and unanimously APPROVED>

- Someone needs to do a brief history of the Conservators to be included in the program.

Eric spoke of the need to have targets for the need to raise money – e.g., to be able to step up with partners for needed work in the parks, for implementation of the Nahanton Park study now underway, for another study and improvements to Cold Spring Park, for tree planting.

Peggy will attend our October meeting for further discussion so board members who were not present this time participate.

**Annual meeting speaker:** Jane suggests Robert Wilbur, head of acquisitions for Mass Audubon to speak about the next 50 years. Ted observed that Wilbur had spoken to NC some years ago [he gave the November Lecture in 1963.]

**Treasurer's Report:** Katherine distributed and explained the financial statement as of June 30. Income and expenses were both below budget. The next six months will see expenditure of \$4800 for the Audubon park monitoring, \$2000 for the Nahanton Park study and \$5800 for the new printing of the Almanac.

Katherine also gave an update about the Almanac sales as of Sept. 10. Some 100 copies remain unsold; and including the approximate cost/value of higher membership donations from the complimentary copies, the original cost of \$5850 has been recovered.

**Trail Guides** (Pat and Jane): They are in the editing stage, the combined edition will be ready for printing tomorrow; probably a run of 5000. [The 2003 printing was 5500 copies.]

**Grant Applications for signs:** Jane has prepared an application for DCR funding of 80% of the cost of 18 signs each of which costs \$150 .

**Public service announcement:** Jane and Ted are preparing a public service announcement for NEWTV using pictures and voice. When completed, NEWTV will give us DVDs to be used on multiple occasions.

**Nahanton Park update** (Jane): Audubon won the only bid, at \$5900. The Conservators, and Friends of Nahanton Park will each contribute \$2000, Angino Farm \$500, and the City will pay the balance.

**Tree Pruning update** (Jane): the negotiations between the City and NStar are still on hold.

**Storage space for our archives** (Katherine): we are currently paying \$51/month for storage, and are inquiring whether space may be available in the Newton History Museum when their new storage space is ready.

**New Business:**

- **October 17 Harvest Fair** (Katherine) NC will share a table with the Tree Conservancy; we need help between 11:00AM and 5:00 PM.

Alison, Henry, Jane, and AnnaMaria have volunteered. **Please let Katherine know if you have an hour or two.**

- **Newton Conservator banner:** Jane and Pat will look into the cost of one.

**Nahanton Park Nature Center:** Duane Hillis is disturbed about the City's renting it out for uses not related to nature. Board members commented that introducing children and others to the park in this way is a plus.

**Classic Communications and year-long anniversary celebration:** A year-long celebration with an event in a park every month, or a signature event in every year were ready. The board concurred with Jane that we are not ready to do these or to engage Classic Communications.

Our walks being our most popular activity, Eric suggested something big in relation to them.

**Temple Mishkan Tefila** (Henry): the land is in play, and Eric concurred that we should play a role in preserving it.

Frank suggested we put more about current issues such as this on our web site.

**Adjournment:** at 9:30 PM>

Respectfully submitted,  
 AnnaMaria Abernathy, secretary  
 Peggy Sagan's suggestion:

**Newton Conservators  
 2011 Annual Meeting**  
Ideas for Sponsorship Categories and Benefits

<b>Sponsor Level</b>	<b>Benefits</b>
<b>\$1,000</b> Platinum Sponsor	Full-page ad in commemorative 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary program
	Exhibit/display table at the Annual Meeting (or company banner)
	Prominent recognition on Newton Conservator website through Dec. 2011
	Prominent recognition in invitation and other promotion related to the Annual Meeting
	6 Tickets to the Annual Meeting/Dinner
	2 Seats at the Head Table
<b>\$750</b> Gold Sponsor	Half-page ad in commemorative 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary program
	Exhibit/display table at the Annual Meeting (or company banner)
	Recognition on Newton Conservator website through Dec. 2011
	Prominent Recognition in invitation and other promotion related to the Annual Meeting
	4 Tickets to the Annual Meeting/Dinner
	1 Seat at the Head Table
<b>\$500</b> Silver Sponsor	Quarter-page ad in commemorative 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary program
	Company banner/poster at the Annual Meeting
	Recognition on Newton Conservator website through Dec. 2011
	Recognition in invitation and other promotion related to the Annual Meeting
	2 Tickets to the Annual Meeting/Dinner

NEWTON CONSERVATORS, Inc.

Minutes of the Board Meeting

October 13, 2010, 7:30 PM

Newton City Hall Room 202

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Attending: Jane Sender (presiding), AnnaMaria Abernathy, Margaret Albright, Bonnie Carter, Mike Clarke, Pete Gilmore, Katherine Howard, Ted Kuklinski, , Eric Reenstierna, Larry Smith.

Also present were Peggy Sagan and Curtis Betts.

The meeting began at 7:40, amid enthusiastic approval of the new banners, of which the large one will be inaugurated at the Harvest Fair. Frank Howard's resignation from the board was lamented, as the loss of a most valuable member.

**Approval of the Minutes of September 15:** The minutes were approved as written.

**Update on production and pricing of Trail Guides and brochure** (Jane): 50 copies of the trail guide and of the brochure will be delivered in time for the Harvest Fair. The executive committee decided the trail guide price at \$8.95. The board sent kudos to Pat, Lucy, and Dan Brody for their Herculean work on both publications.

**Conservator banners:** Jane brought the new banners made by Pat. They were greatly admired..

**Annual Meeting Speaker:** Jane has succeeded in getting Bob Wilbur, director of acquisitions at Mass Audubon..

**Land acquisition committee:** Eric distributed copies showing history of several sites and what the Conservators might do about each. (See attached).

- Farwell Street: we could propose to the City to buy seven waterfront homes for a waterside park. Jane stressed that riverside property should be a priority. Mike added the alternative of acquiring a strip in front of the homes, so the Charles River Path would not be interrupted. Buying the right of first refusal was also mentioned. Jane said we need to formulate a plan and have it entered into the City's Open Space Plan.



- Temple Mishka Tefila. The valuable land abutting Webster Conservation Area has a deed restriction which is finite. We should press the City to acquire it while the restriction is in effect.
- Wilson conservation land on Bracebridge Rd.– Jane, Eric, and AnnaMaria will talk to the Wilsons about their interest in preserving the open space.

**Avery Woods:** Curtis Betts told us it has been “the beneficiary of benign neglect.”

Any protection of the Woods is between the City and the heirs.

Jane said the Conservators should try to get a conservation restriction for the land; it is currently under Parks & Rec. Dept. and should be under Conservation. Curtis suggested that the Conservators could seek a science teacher interested in using the land.

**Annual Meeting Planning – Peggy Sagan:**

- Ted Kuklinski has secured the larger room on the first floor of Post 440 for May 25.

Alternate sites had been considered, and the unanimous consensus was this one.

- Silent Auction Donors & Sponsorships: Peggy distributed the draft of a letter that might be sent to potential donors, and a list of possible businesses to contact for sponsorships or donations to a silent auction. (THE LIST IS ATTACHED. Please let Peggy know if you can be the board sponsor for any of the businesses, or have other ones to suggest. Either email Peggy at [peggysagan@rcn.com](mailto:peggysagan@rcn.com), or phone her at 617.821.1068.)
- In accordance with comments made at the September meeting, she would add a sponsorship level of \$250, and a “Friends” level at \$100.
- Margaret Albright suggested asking aldermen & school committee members, who will be running for re-election.

**Treasurer’s Report** Katherine said the statement for September 30 is done, as is the corporation’s annual report to the Secretary of State that is due Nov. 1.

**Nahanton Park update** (Jane): Some approvals are still needed before the Audubon Study can begin.

**N-Star Tree Pruning update** (Jane): Newton Tree Warden Marc Welch is drawing up a list of conditions for NStar pruning.

**New Business:**

• Commonwealth Golf Course: Jane has met Larry Beals, President of Beals Associates, a company which does water testing among other things, who has volunteered to look at the CR monitoring report on the Commonwealth Golf Course and advise us how to move forward on the water testing recommendations.

• Harvest Fair: Katherine circulated a sign-up sheet for volunteers to help at the Conservator table between 11 AM and 5 PM. Copies of the new trail guide and second printing of the almanac will be available for sale.

• DCR Grant application for signage: Jane submitted it, noting that it had entailed a huge amount of work.

• Article for *Bird Observer*: Pete Gilmore has been asked to write an article about Cold Spring Park for the publication, and asked permission to use the Conservator map. The board agreed with kudos to Pete.

• Awtrey trail marker: Eric has contacted a monument company about this; it is in the works.

**Adjournment:** at 9:00 PM>

Respectfully submitted,  
AnnaMaria Abernathy, secretary

Peggy Sagan's suggestion:

**Newton Conservators**  
**2011 Annual Meeting**  
**Ideas for Silent Auction Donors / Meeting Sponsors**

Company	Board Contact	Status
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***Hotels***

Hotel Indigo

Newton Marriott

Jane Sender

Sheraton Needham

Peggy Sagan

***Landscapers/ Arborists***

Kevin Newman & Sons

Kirk McKinney (arborist)

781 320-9500

***Nurseries***

Winston's

Russell's

Mahoney's

Volante Farms

***Country Clubs in Newton***

Charles River County Club (  
next to Nahanton Park

Braeburn Country Club

Woodland Country Club

***Retail***

REI

Eastern Mountain Sports

Newtonville Camera

Portobello Road (Chestnut

Hill Mall, very cool nature-y

stuff)  
Just Next Door (they bought  
Almanacs)  
The Dressing Room,  
Auburndale  
Charles River Canoe &  
Keyak  
Modell's Sporting Goods  
(Needham St – where  
teenagers get all their stuff  
these days)

### ***Grocery Stores***

Trader Joe's (donate desserts  
or veggie trays?)  
Whole Foods (donate  
cheese, bread, or veggie  
trays?)

### ***Restaurants***

Kouzina  
Cabot's  
Ciao Bello (or something  
like that –coming soon to  
Auburndale)  
Ariadne  
51 Lincoln  
The Local  
Biltmore Cafe  
O'Hara's and Paddy's

### ***Services***

Massages  
Cooking demonstrations

***Wine/Liquor Stores***

Auburndale Wine & Spirits  
Vino Divino

***Arts/Culture***

New Rep Theatre  
Turtle Lane  
Newton                      Symphony  
Orchestra  
Huntington Theatre  
Boston Symphony Orchestra  
Handel & Haydn

***Gas Stations/Auto Repair***

Regan's

***Hardware***

Waban Hardware  
Schwartz's

***Related Non-Profits***

Jackson Homestead  
Mass Audubon Society  
Garden in the Woods

**Another opportunity:** Perhaps we should also think about Friends groups – e.g.,  
Friends of Nahanton Park, Hemlock Gorge, Crystal Lake -- to take ads in the program

NEWTON CONSERVATORS, Inc.  
Minutes of the Board Meeting  
November 10, 2010, 7:30 PM  
Newton City Hall Cafeteria

Attending: Jane Sender (presiding), AnnaMaria Abernathy, Margaret Albright, Octo Barnett, Dan Brody, Robert Fizek, Pete Gilmore, Bill Hagar, Katherine Howard, Peter Kastner, Ted Kuklinski, Alison Leary, George Mansfield, Larry Smith.

The meeting began at 7:30

**Approval of the Minutes of October 13:** The minutes were approved as written.

**Treasurer's Report:** Katherine reported that the corporation's annual report was filed on Nov. 1. She has installed Quicken 2010 with improved backup procedure and link to the password-protected directors' website. Among other things, in commenting about the report (appended to the file copy of these minutes), she noted many large contributions are needed by the Dec. 31 deadline. Margaret Doris suggested pushing gift memberships with the renewals. It was decided to offer free Trail Guides for renewals received by Dec. 31; new members receive a free Trail Guide as before.

It was also decided to revive circulation of the green box containing our publications so walk leaders can sell them during walks.

The second printing of the Almanac will be priced \$19.95, or \$15.95 to members buying online; Trail Guides \$8.95/6.95.

Our website is now linked to the Parks & Rec Dept. site and to Wicked Local.

**Chestnut Hill Square:** Jane thanked George for preparing on minimal notice the letter sent to the aldermanic land use committee (emailed to board on Oct. 15 and attached to the file copy of these minutes).

George said the Mixed Use Task Force has submitted its report to the mayor, who received it favorably. More urgent is the Chestnut Hill Square development, which is moving through the Board of Aldermen far too

quickly, as the developer will not grant an extension to the 90 day deadline for action. The next working session of the committee will be on November 23, and the committee vote is scheduled for Nov. 30. We should urge land use committee members to stand firm for a good development. The list of Land Use Committee members is appended.

Jane MOVED that we ask George to draft a letter to the Land Use Committee about the plan, several people SECONDED it and it was unanimously APPROVED.

**Land acquisition committee:** Jane is planning to attend the January or February CPC meeting to discuss various riverfront parcels listed on the Open Space Plan, and our moving forward in discussions with owners about their interest in entering into conservation restrictions or purchases.

**Temple Mishkan Tefila land:** Octo reported about the situation regarding the DCR land abutting the Webster Conservation Area.

**New Business:**

- Jane met with members of the **Parks & Rec.Dept.** about adding parks in their web site, which is mostly “Rec.”
- Dan Brody found **Hunnewell Woods** filled full of trash; a discussion of trash pickup in the city followed.
- Katherine: at **Harvest Fair** 8 Trail Guides were sold, plus one new membership.
- Drumlin Farm, Just Next Door, and farmers’ markets have begun selling **Almanacs and Trail Guides.**
- **City Web Site Customer Satisfaction page:** the board agreed that Jane send a message to the Conservator membership urging that they express their views.
- **Commonwealth Golf Club:** Larry Beals (see October minutes) has provided an initial Water Quality Review based upon the CR monitoring report done by Mass Audubon. A critical issue will be stormwater runoff. There will be follow up discussions and meetings with Mr. Beals to investigate water quality issues.

• **Grants:** Bill Hagar explained that two requests for a total of \$670 were recommended by the committee. Alison described the “I Speak for the Trees” project of 3 NNHS students to instruct 50 elementary students about conservation of trees, requesting \$300. Margaret Albright described the biosphere project for Williams School fourth graders. Bill MOVED to approve both, sharing the first with the Newton Tree Conservancy; this was SECONDED and unanimously APPROVED.

• Octo’s suggestion that we get our **Walks into school newsletters** was discussed.

•**Snow removal at Ordway Park:** Margaret Albright pointed out the need to arrange for snow removal from Ordway Park sidewalks, given the new laws regarding responsibility.

**Adjournment:** at 9:05 PM>

Respectfully submitted,  
AnnaMaria Abernathy, secretary

## Newton Aldermanic Land Use Committee 2010

WARD	NAME	EMAIL	TELEPHONE	ADDRESS
Ward I	Carleton P. Merrill	<a href="mailto:cmerrill@newtonma.gov">cmerrill@newtonma.gov</a>	617-244-2421	15 Newtonville Ave., 0245
Ward 2	Susan Albright	<a href="mailto:salbright@newtonma.gov">salbright@newtonma.gov</a>	617-527-7108	1075 Commonwealth Ave.
Ward 3	Ted Hess-Mahan, chairman	<a href="mailto:thessmahan@newtonma.gov">thessmahan@newtonma.gov</a>	508-847-4855	871 Watertown St., 02465
Ward 4	Jay Harney	<a href="mailto:jharney@newtonma.gov">jharney@newtonma.gov</a>	617-964-4243	42 Central St., 02466
Ward 5	Deborah Crossley	<a href="mailto:dcrossley@newtonma.gov">dcrossley@newtonma.gov</a>	617-775-1294	26 Circuit Ave., 02461
Ward 6	Richard Blazar	<a href="mailto:rblazar@newtonma.gov">rblazar@newtonma.gov</a>	617-527-1629	196 Morton St., 02459
Ward 7	Sydra Schnipper	<a href="mailto:sschnipper@newtonma.gov">sschnipper@newtonma.gov</a>	617-965-2331	273 Ward St., 02459
Ward 8	Mitchell L. Fischman	<a href="mailto:mfischman@newtonma.gov">mfischman@newtonma.gov</a>	617-964-0826	41 Brush Hill Rd., 02461



October 15, 2010

**Officers**

Jane Sender, President  
Alison Leary, Vice President  
AnnaMaria Abernathy,  
Secretary  
Katherine Howard, Treasurer  
Beth Schroeder, Past President

**Board of Directors**

Margaret Albright  
Octo Barnett  
Dan Brody  
Lalor Burdick  
Bonnie Carter  
Michael Clarke  
Margaret Doris  
Henry Finch  
Robert Fizek  
Maurice Gilmore  
Daniel Green  
William Hagar  
Frank Howard  
Peter Kastner  
Ted Kuklinski  
George Mansfield  
Eric Reenstierna  
Patricia Robinson  
Larry Smith  
Willis Wang

**Advisors**

Nancy Avery  
Lisle Baker  
Rodney Barker  
John Bliss  
Lee Breckenridge  
Lucy Caldwell-Stair  
Michael Collora  
Modestino Criscitiello  
Douglas Dickson  
Burton Elliott  
Bart Hague  
Judith Hepburn  
Duane Hillis  
Deborah Howard  
Lawrence Kaplan  
William Leitch  
Don Lubin  
Eric Olson  
Richard Primack  
Jon Regosin  
Frances Seasholes  
William Shaevel  
William Stevenson

Alderman Ted Hess-Mahan  
Chair, Land Use Committee  
City of Newton Board of Alderman  
City Hall  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton, Ma 02459

Re: Chestnut Hill Square

Dear Chair Hess-Mahan and members of the Land Use Committee:

Having heard much input on the current plans to develop a mixed use project at the proposed site referred to as Chestnut Hill Square on Route 9 from members of our Board and the public, the Newton Conservators ask you to consider carefully the plans currently before you to evaluate their compatibility with the principles recently developed by the Mayor's Mixed Use Zoning Task Force, as well as the principles of sustainable development and smart growth that Newton should strive to follow. *We believe that the plans before you lack both sufficient green space and usable open space, and they do not promote safe and attractive pedestrian and bicycle access to the site or circulation within the site.*

1) Open space

The open space proposed is either landscaping on the islands that separate rows of parked cars within the large surface parking lot dominating the center of the site, or a buffer area of trees to screen a second large parking area at the rear from Florence Street. Neither of these areas serve the important function of creating a place where people (on foot) can gather, interact, or participate in cultural or community events that could make Chestnut Hill Square a vibrant and attractive place to be, rather than just a necessary quick stop for shopping or services. Even typical enclosed malls, although surrounded by seas of parking, generally have these kinds of spaces.

The main retail building is set on Route 9 with no setback, openings, or welcoming facade to the passersby. It builds a blank wall reflecting the Chestnut Hill Mall's retaining wall across Route 9, creating a canyon--albeit 2 to 4 lanes wider than at present--that will be completely inhospitable to anyone who dares to venture out of their cars here. But this building is only one story, and so could at least include greenery and outdoor functional areas on its roof. This could be space that is both usable and attractive when viewed from Route 9.

Roger Swain  
Verne Vance  
Brian Yates

**Newton Conservators, Inc. • PO Box 590011 • Newton Centre • MA 02459 •**  
[www.newtonconservators.org](http://www.newtonconservators.org)

age

2) Too much reliance on vehicular transportation

The project fails to address the important goals of improving air quality and our area's carbon footprint goals, as it is so heavily dependent on vehicular transportation. The main traffic improvements widen Route 9 to 8 lanes (in front of the site), but fail to address the squeeze points east and west at Hammond St. and Elliot St. They create a median break and traffic light to facilitate westbound traffic (but not pedestrians) in entering the site, and eastbound traffic leaving Chestnut Hill Mall, and install new traffic lights at the Route 9 intersections with Hammond Pond Parkway and Parker St. Each of these changes may improve traffic safety, but together they will undoubtedly increase traffic congestion, both on Route 9 and the adjacent roads.

We also understand the developer is trying to convince the MBTA to extend its #60 bus from its current terminus at the Chestnut Hill Shopping Center to a new bus shelter at this site. However, that doesn't do very much to get people out of their cars, as the bus only parallels the Green Line to Kenmore Square, with much less frequent service. The developer has been asked many times to support and operate a shoppers shuttle bus that could run frequently between the Chestnut Hill and Newton Centre Green line stops, with stops at this site as well as at the existing Shopping Center, the Mall, the Towers, and the Atrium. That could really change the public transit atmosphere in this whole part of Newton (and Brookline), promoting sustainability, and helping all retailers, employees and many residents, especially the young and old.

There is very little opportunity in the design for pedestrians or bicyclists to access the site except in conjunction with vehicular entrances or on the margins of streets with very heavy traffic. All access, even from adjacent parcels (such as Barnes & Noble, Avalon, and Imperial Towers), seem to assume access only by car. Bicycle accommodations, along with signage, bicycle and pedestrian paths would greatly improve the quality of the site.

This developer stated in many community meetings over the past year, "We anticipate working with the Board of Aldermen on the final site design." Much such work is badly needed and now is the time. We urge you to seek alternative plans that will significantly reduce the surface parking, such as structured parking in the first phase, not in a second phase that may never be built, and/or increased public and non-vehicular transit opportunities that can reduce parking demand.

of Well-designed, focused, accessible open space should then replace some that surface parking, and green roofs should be considered. Finally, we ask that you take the time that is needed to improve this important project for the City of Newton, and not be rushed now by a developer who has chosen, because of the economy, to delay this project proposal for several years.

Thank you for your time, effort and dedication.

Sincerely,

Jane E. Sender, Esq  
President

**Newton Conservators Inc.**  
**Unrestricted Income Statement**  
**Quarter 3 2010 - 9 Months through Sept. 30, 2010**

	YTD Q3 2010 Actual	YTD Q3 2010 Budget	Variance	2010 BUDGET	CY2009 Actual	Prior Year Actuals CY2008 Actual	CY 2007 Actual	CY 2006 Actual
<b>REVENUES AND SUPPORT</b>								
Dues - Members	4,100	8,500	(4,400)	<i>even by Q unless noted</i> 1/2 in Q4 17,000	15,560	14,629	17,511	19,382
Gifts - Members	590	1,250	(660)	1/2 in Q4 2,500	2,493	1,430	2,820	2,965
Income Other or cd fees/escrow int	(60)	(150)	90	(200)	(139)	150	-	-
Income - Other - Maps	493	600	(107)	800	884	725	344	1,100
<b>Total revenues and support</b>	<b>5,123</b>	<b>10,200</b>	<b>(5,077)</b>	<b>20,100</b>	<b>18,797</b>	<b>16,933</b>	<b>20,675</b>	<b>23,447</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>								
Annual Meeting - net cost	703	1,500	797	<i>all Q2</i> 1,500	1,862	2,489	1,027	966
Board Administrative Expenses	492	375	(117)	500	410	398	360	546
Board Development	-	188	188	250	-	-	-	-
Dues	400	338	(63)	450	405	375	405	375
Fees	60	75	15	100	75	75	50	15
Grants	2,500	3,750	1,250	5,000	4,900	6,534	3,748	2,500
Insurance	3,295	3,300	5	<i>all Q1</i> 3,300	3,239	3,086	3,001	2,615
Publications & Publicity - Almanac	5,850	2,750	(3,100)	<i>all Q3</i> 2,750	5,850	-	-	-
Almanac revenue	(845)	(750)	95	(1,000)	(3,269)	-	-	-
Membership Development	1,151	1,500	349	2,000	1,939	1,759	882	715
Newsletter	1,860	2,250	390	3,000	3,394	1,872	1,793	2,474
Ordway Maintenance	490	1,125	635	1,500	1,665	710	822	765
Programs	165	375	210	500	-	200	500	381
Website	191	250	59	<i>all Q1</i> 250	191	208	96	-
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>16,313</b>	<b>17,025</b>	<b>712</b>	<b>20,100</b>	<b>20,461</b>	<b>17,685</b>	<b>12,684</b>	<b>11,351</b>
<b>Net income from operations before special projects</b>	<b>(11,189)</b>	<b>(6,825)</b>	<b>(4,364)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,664)</b>	<b>(752)</b>	<b>7,991</b>	<b>12,096</b>
<b>SPECIAL PROJECTS</b>								
Current Yr Special Projects (1K CLC, 2K Nahanton, Bike)	3,100	3,900	800	General Q3 - CR Monitor Yr T 5,200	100	-	-	-
Conservation Restriction monitoring	4,800	4,800	-	4,800	-	-	-	-
Prior yrs: DCR Bridge \$4K, Crystal Lake \$15K, Nserves \$500, Bike Newton \$677	-	-	-	-	-	20,077	260	300
	7,900	8,700	800	10,000	100	20,077	260	300
<b>Net income from operations</b>	<b>(19,089)</b>	<b>(15,525)</b>	<b>(3,564)</b>	<b>(10,000)</b>	<b>(1,764)</b>	<b>(20,829)</b>	<b>7,731</b>	<b>11,796</b>
<b>INVESTMENT INCOME AND GAINS</b>								
Interest - Checking	6	8	(1)	10	8	14	17	61
Interest - Money Market	39	375	(336)	500	633	2,980	4,968	3,661
Interest - Transfer to restricted	(503)	(750)	247	(1,000)	(1,632)	2,335	(866)	(1,443)
Interest - 4-in 1 Fund	99	1,125	(1,026)	1,500	1,455	1,971	1,882	2,186
Interest - Treasury Bills	279	225	54	300	513	1,093	2,191	1,434
Unrealized Gain (Loss) - 4-in-1 Fund	3,224	-	3,224	-	12,270	(28,558)	2,539	8,076
<b>Total investment income</b>	<b>3,144</b>	<b>983</b>	<b>2,161</b>	<b>1,310</b>	<b>13,246</b>	<b>(20,165)</b>	<b>10,730</b>	<b>13,975</b>
<b>Total changes in unrestricted net assets</b>	<b>(15,945)</b>	<b>(14,543)</b>	<b>(1,403)</b>	<b>(8,690)</b>	<b>11,482</b>	<b>(40,994)</b>	<b>18,462</b>	<b>25,770</b>
<b>Beginning Unrestricted Net Assets</b>	<b>160,189</b>	<b>160,189</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>160,189</b>	<b>148,707</b>	<b>189,701</b>	<b>171,239</b>	<b>145,469</b>
<b>Plus: change in unrestricted net assets</b>	<b>(15,945)</b>	<b>(14,543)</b>	<b>(1,403)</b>	<b>(8,690)</b>	<b>11,482</b>	<b>(40,994)</b>	<b>18,462</b>	<b>25,770</b>
<b>Ending Unrestricted Net Assets</b>	<b>144,244</b>	<b>145,647</b>	<b>(1,403)</b>	<b>151,499</b>	<b>160,189</b>	<b>148,707</b>	<b>189,701</b>	<b>171,239</b>

NEWTON CONSERVATORS, Inc.  
Minutes of the Board Meeting  
December 8, 2010, 7:30 PM  
Newton City Hall Cafeteria

Attending: Jane Sender (presiding), AnnaMaria Abernathy, Margaret Albright, Dan Brody, Bonnie Carter, Henry Finch, Robert Fizek, Pete Gilmore, Bill Hagar, Katherine Howard, Alison Leary, George Mansfield, Eric Reenstierna, Pat Robinson, Larry Smith.

Also present was Mike Collora.

The meeting began at 7:30 following and during a potluck supper.

**Approval of the Minutes of November 10:** The minutes were approved as written.

**Land Protection Fund Proposal:** Jane explained the idea to raise funds for land protection of properties on or off the City's Open Space Plan, that meet our Land Preservation Criteria. We could offer to help owners of such properties with the appraisal to value a conservation restriction or sale, with research for deeds, etc., and legal work and possibly the purchase of the right of first refusal on a property.

Discussion followed of whether to

- write to individual land owners or publicize it through our newsletter and the media,;
- work through the CPC or begin offering help without bureaucratic restrictions.

The board consensus found it a good idea and Jane's MOTION to move forward with the land protection focus, beginning with the silent auction at the annual meeting, was SECONDED and unanimously approved.

It was decided to consider the amount to set as goal for the fund drive at the January meeting, when Margaret Albright will provide a list of Newton foundations to discuss.

**Grants Committee:** Bill said two proposals have been funded. A third one, for vending misers at NSHS, was heatedly discussed, and a MOTION to ask the student for a fuller description of the plan and how it fits in with existing energy savings programs, was SECONDED and APPROVED.

**Trail linkage proposal:** Dan Brody described the existing Charles River Greenway Loop Trail (see <http://www.newtonconservators.org/library/cutlermillenniumloop.htm>) and the proposal he had sent to the board. He offered to investigate the possibility of shortening the route from 10 miles to 6 miles; shifting it to avoid the Solomon Schechter School parking lot; and use boardwalks over wetlands for the shortened route. The MOTION that Dan investigate the possibilities was SECONDED and unanimously approved.

**New Publication Proposal:** Pat suggests that each year we publish a weekly date book with one page of photo facing a week's calendar, or a monthly calendar, with dates regarding nature. The board enthusiastically approved a MOTION that Pat investigate the possibilities; it was SECONDED and unanimously APPROVED.

**Update re Webster Conservation Area:** Eric described the current status quo.

**Ordway Park Update:** Lucia Dolan has volunteered to keep the sidewalk shoveled.

**Newton Commonwealth Golf Course Water Testing Site:** Beals Associates has presented two proposals for initial scope of services: to sample the stream channel as it enters the property and as it exits the property, either twice (for quality control) for \$1600, or once for \$1100. Jane MOVED that we accept the proposal for two samplings, to be paid from the Golf Course escrow account.

**Chestnut Hill Square update:** George recounted the approval of the proposal two days earlier. The aldermanic land use committee had approved it 6-0-2 abstentions, with additions made at the committee meeting. Instead of the expected time, the board took it up on Dec. 6 and voted it 20-0 after making three changes on that evening. The board thanked George warmly for his efforts.

**Sale of Hebrew College Land:** the board discussed the land being sold, and concluded that we have no role to play.

**New Business: Aqueduct trails:** Henry is looking into status of privately owned sections of the aqueducts. A committee formed to work on the problem: Henry, George, Jane, and Bonnie.



**Adjournment:** at 10 PM  
Respectfully submitted,  
AnnaMaria Abernathy, secretary

NEWTON CONSERVATORS, Inc.  
Minutes of the Board Meeting  
January 19, 7:30 PM  
Finch/Robinson home  
153 Windsor Road, Waban

Attending: Jane Sender (presiding), AnnaMaria Abernathy, Henry Finch, Pete Gilmore, Bill Hagar, Katherine Howard, Ted Kuklinski, George Mansfield, Eric Reenstierna, Pat Robinson, Larry Smith.

The meeting began at 7:45.

**Approval of the Minutes December 8:** The minutes were approved as written.

**Treasurer's Report:** Katherine said that revenues in 2010 were some \$2,000 below budget, and expenses were also below budget. 253 renewals came after Jane's renewal letter.

**Archives:** Katherine announced that Jane had generously provided space in her basement for the storage boxes, eliminating the expense of commercial storage.

**Wilson Property Proposal and Update:** Bill Shaevel has made a proposal to represent the Wilsons, and will meet with Jane and the Wilsons on the coming Saturday to discuss. An accountant and appraiser have also been found. In order to work out the value of an easement, Henry has worked out how many additional homes could be built on the property: one by right, two or even three by special permit.

**Newton Commonwealth Golf Course – water testing:** the water testing results were generally ok, but Beals recommends that a second set of tests be done after fertilizer has been applied in springtime. The board agreed that this be done.

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning**

- Jane will draft the letters inviting sponsors; board members will sign and follow up with potential donors.
- Pat had prepared a version of the special 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary letterhead in which the special logo replaces the list of advisors. The board approved of this.

- The board agreed with the suggested levels (from \$1,000 to \$100) and names of sponsorship categories.
- It was agreed to invite aldermen and state representatives to sponsor the event.

**Awards:** Some potential recipients were discussed. The decisions will have to be made at the March meeting.

**Webster Conservation Area update:** No further information; it is urgent that action be taken before the Mishkan Tefila land goes on sale.

**Chestnut Hill Square update:** The suit filed by abutting malls was noted.

**New Business:**

• **Board meeting locale:** members decided to continue meeting at the Finch/Robinsons, while noting the advantage of visibility at City Hall and possible drop-ins by aldermen. [After the official close of the meeting, the executive committee and several others agreed that we meet at City Hall when an upstairs room is available, and at the Finch/Robinsons' when only the cafeteria or the War Memorial Auditorium are free.]

• **TAB article about Newton birds:** Alderman Danberg has suggested the Conservators write one; Pete Gilmore volunteered to do so from time to time.

**Adjournment:** at 9:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
AnnaMaria Abernathy, secretary

**DRAFT**

NEWTON CONSERVATORS, Inc.  
Minutes of the Board Meeting  
February 9, 2010 7:30 PM  
Newton City Hall Room 203

Attending: Jane Sender (presiding), AnnaMaria Abernathy, Margaret Albright, Octo Barnett, Dan Brody, Mike Clark, Robert Fizek, Pete Gilmore, Bill Hagar, Katherine Howard, Ted Kuklinski, George Mansfield, Eric Reenstierna, Larry Smith, Willis Wang.

Also present for portions of the meeting were Peter Barrer and Alderman Lisle Baker

**Peter Barrer – Solar Project for Pine Street:** Peter Barrer, president of Newton Community Farm, Inc. and member of the City's design review committee, explained his idea of putting c.11 acres of solar panels on the Pine Street fenced in hazardous waste site adjacent to Burr School. Beals & Thomas have cited \$15,000 as the cost for a study of the ground. The City has put out a r.f.p. for panels here and at Rumford Avenue. Barrer would like Conservator approval before sounding out neighbors. Jane thanked him for coming; the board will consider the matter.

In discussion after Mr. Barrer left, it was the sense of the meeting that we encourage him to pursue the testing of the site.

**Land acquisition committee update:** Alderman Baker dropped in briefly to discuss Webster Conservation Area issues, which he will talk about again in four to six weeks.

**2011 Budget:** Katherine presented the proposed budget and 2010 financial statements. She observed, among other things, that

- expenses were some \$4,000 below budget;
- some of the restricted assets are expected to disappear - Friends of Houghton Gardens will spend their amount.;
- a "normal" annual meeting amount is in the regular operating part of the statement, and the unusual 50th anniversary add-on items (sponsorship revenue, planning costs, etc) are in the Special Projects section;
- follow on work for conservation restriction monitoring by Mass Audubon

is not needed in 2011 but will be planned for 2012;

- proceeds from annual meeting sponsorships and silent auction will help to offset costs of strategic initiatives such as land acquisition program, for which \$5,000 is budgeted under "Special Projects.

A MOTION to approve the budget and 2010 financial statements was SECONDED and unanimously approved.

**Wilson Property Conservation Restriction update:** Jane reported that the Wilsons have engaged Bill Shaevel to work on a conservation restriction on their land.

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning:** Jane reported that a first sponsor is Kevin Newman, who is will donate \$250 in service and sponsor at the Silver level of \$250.

She will send the list of potential donors to whom she has written, for board members to indicate to Peggy Sagans the names of those they will follow up.

**New board member** Jane obtained board approval to invite Beth Wilkinson to join the board.

**New Business: March 2 Nahanton Park Hearing:** Attention was called to the Parks & Recreation Commission public hearing on the Audubon Society's Nahanton Park Natural Resources & Management Plan Project at 7PM on March 2, at the Library Druker Auditorium.

**Adjournment:** at 9:05 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
AnnaMaria Abernathy, secretary

**DRAFT**

NEWTON CONSERVATORS, Inc.  
Minutes of the Board Meeting  
March 9, 2011 7:30 PM  
Newton City Hall Room 203

Attending: Jane Sender (presiding), AnnaMaria Abernathy, Margaret Albright, Dan Brody, Mike Clark, Pete Gilmore, Dan Green, Bill Hagar, Katherine Howard, Peter Kastner, Ted Kuklinski, George Mansfield, Eric Reenstierna, Larry Smith, Willis Wang, Beth Wilkinson.

**Approval of the Minutes of February 9:** The minutes were approved as written.

**Treasurer's Report:** Katherine reported that financial statements are due March 31. The 3 ABC Forms were filed on schedule by March 1. Jane added that, under time constraint, she had made the executive decision to permit the Conservators accepting donations to the Stephen C. Regan Tribute Fund. The funds will be spent, working with the Regan family wishes, in enhancements to Ware's Cove. To date, \$2100 had been received.

**Annual Meeting Update:** (Jane) Thus far 31 donations and 7 sponsorships have been received, including jewelry from Nancy Schön. *\*See below.*

**Land Acquisition Committee:** (Eric) The committee met earlier this evening.

- Regarding the Pine Street Landfill proposal for solar panels, the committee agreed that the contaminated soil presents significant problems due to the expense of remediation.
- Islington Road: Jane will get in touch with the owner.
- Webster Conservation land issues – Jane and Eric will discuss w/ Lisle Baker before the next board meeting.
- Aqueducts: Mike Clarke and Dan Green will join Henry Finch's committee on the subject.

**Awards:** The board agreed that Environmentalist of the Year award will go to the Trail Guide Committee. Other awards were discussed, and final decisions will be made at the next (April) board meeting.

**New board member** Jane introduced Beth Wilkinson, who among other activities, has been very active with the New England Wildflower Society, the Newton Tree Conservancy, Library Board of Trustees (chair), LWVN, PTO, Land Conservation Program. A MOTION to elect Beth to the board was SECONDED and unanimously approved.

**Nahanton Park Hearing Update:** (Jane) The Parks & Recreation Commission public hearing on the Audubon Society Ecological Extension Service's Nahanton Park Natural Resources & Management Plan Project on March 2 was well attended with good discussion. Jeff Collins of the Extension Service led the discussion of all the uses of the park. Included were

- Community Farm proposal to farm in Nahanton Park
- Considerable amount of trash dumping and invasive plants
- Need for better signage of the trails
- Proposed Off leash area for dogs
- Restoration need of the Meadow and the fence due to snow dumping
- Woodcock Hill maintenance need
- Soccer activity expanding into border and trail
- Condition of community gardens
- parking

The Audubon Extension Service will make recommendations after its fall survey.

**Hammond Pond boardwalk proposal:** Jane attended the March 7 meeting of the DCR about the Rudyak family's offer. A DCR partnership grant has been awarded (\$45,000; \$22,500 from DCR, \$22,500 from the family) for a feasibility study for the project which will include water quality and bathymetric testing of the pond. DCR favors having 3 overlooks on the pond. Jane planned to speak in favor of the feasibility study at the next day's DCR meeting March 10.

**Spring Walks:** Alison mentioned several planned walks, and will have 6 to 8 activities in time for the April 1 Newsletter deadline.

**Newsletter:** Members are asked to submit articles by April 1. Jane will write the lead article about the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

**Nominating Committee:** Mike Clarke agreed to head the committee again, and solicit other members.

**Grants:** (Bill Hagar) The committee met before the board meeting, and considered the three applications received so far:

- Brown Jr. High School: “Brown be Green” – for a hoop house to expand gardening possibilities, \$451. The committee recommended approval.
- Horace Mann School: “Through the lens! Connecting children to Nature through Visual Art.” \$1060 for a computer and software. The committee recommended requesting details of the expenses, expecting to fund software for perhaps 1//2 the amount.
- Mason Rice School: “Garden Renewal with Composting System and Wheel Chair Accessible Garden Bed addition.” \$1683. The committee recommended requesting a scaled-down request.

The board agreed with all three recommendations.

Eric suggested that in making grants, we request signs acknowledging the Newton Conservators’ responsibility, and that the Conservators’ contribution be publicized in the school newsletters. This will be done.

**New Business:**

- **Invasives:** (Katherine) the committee met preceding the board meeting, with Eric Olson. They agreed to return to the areas worked on last year, and decided dates for activities, to be included in the spring walks schedule. They will also try to engage volunteers on Newton Serves Day, May 15 – the height of the garlic mustard season.

- **Nahanton Park Photo Contest:** Details are on our web site – submissions due May 1.

- **Spring Lectures:** (Eric) Several lectures at the Library, with Library co-sponsorship

June 27: co-sponsor with the Tree Conservancy: The new director of the Arnold Arboretum will speak about Darwin

early June: Conservators sponsor Brooks Mathewson, nature photographer of birds

July 14: Conservators sponsor an author forum featuring David Gessner, nature writer.

- **Publicity for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** Board members are asked to send invitations(which will we hope be distributed at the April board meeting) to their friends and neighbors to the event. Beth will write an article for the TAB.



- **Plastic bags:** A committee of the legislature met to discuss a new bill mandating compostable, as opposed to plastic bags. (Alison)

**Adjournment:** at 8:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
AnnaMaria Abernathy, secretary

\* We wrote to some 150 potential sponsors and donors. We need the help of board members and advisors to follow up with those who have not yet responded. Please look over the attached list and volunteer to get in touch with any persons or businesses that you know. To avoid duplicate requests, please let Peggy Sagan ([peggysagan@rcn.com](mailto:peggysagan@rcn.com)) know whom you will call and the results. Attached also is a sample of the letter sent to potential sponsors, and the form donors need to fill out.

**DRAFT**

NEWTON CONSERVATORS, Inc.  
Minutes of the Board Meeting  
April 13, 2011 7:30 PM  
Newton City Hall Room 222

Attending: Jane Sender (presiding), AnnaMaria Abernathy, Margaret Albright, Dan Brody, Mike Clark, Dan Green, Bill Hagar, Katherine Howard, Peter Kastner, Ted Kuklinski, Alison Leary, Eric Reenstierna, Pat Robinson, Larry Smith.

Also for the first portion of the meeting, George Kirby, Chair of the Newton Bicycle/Pedestrian Task Force.

**Approval of the Minutes of March 9:** The minutes were approved as written.

**Rail-Trail Project in Newton Upper Falls:** George Kirby reported on the success of the Lower Falls bridge project so far, and gave a slide presentation of the Upper Falls project for 1+ mile trail on the old Bay Colony Rail tracks parallel to Needham Street, also crossing the Charles. He asked for Conservator support and the board indicated it was supportive of the project. No funds are needed.

**Annual Meeting Invitations:** Jane and Pat distributed copies of the annual meeting invitations, asking each board member to take five or ten to send to acquaintances.

**Awards:** The board heard MOTIONS and SECONDS and voted unanimously to award the following:  
Environmentalist of the Year: The Trail Guide Committee  
Charles Johnson Maynard Award: Duane Hillis and Suzette Barbier for the Friends of Nahanton Park  
Directors Awards: Deborah and Frank Howard.

**Nahanton Park Update:** Jane summarized the facts reported fully in the April-May newsletter of which copies were distributed to those present, and that will be mailed this week.

**Treasurer's Report:** Katherine announced that the audit committee will meet on May 4, and that she has filed an extension for the Form 990 submission, which will be due on August 15.

**Friends of Hammond Park:** the old group became defunct, and a new group in the process of being established has requested that the Conservators hold their funds. A MOTION that we agree to do this, with the conditions that there be an administrative person who will track the contributions and document all expenses, that these be consistent with our charitable purpose, and that any interest will go to the Conservators as recompense with their labor.

**Land Acquisition Committee:** (Eric)

- A MOTION to make \$500 from the land acquisition fund available for Bill Shaevel to engage a title examiner to look for records on a large privately owned parcel was SECONDED and unanimously APPROVED.

- Webster Conservation Land:

- Goldman property: there are a number of issues currently between Mr. Goldman and the Conservation Commission, and Conservators will await settlement

- Temple Mishkan Tefila land: After discussion, Eric MOVED that this being the largest remaining piece of open space, adjacent to Webster Woods, the board authorizes the president and Eric –after speaking with Lisle Baker - to informally contact the trustees of the Temple to learn their intentions about the land. The board took into consideration that Octo opposes our doing this.

**Debris in Cold Spring Park:** Dan Brody saw that what was a pond near the eastern edge of the park is dry, facilitating removal of the large amount of debris that has been dumped there . The City agrees that it will pick up the trash if on Newton Serves Day we haul it to the Beacon Street entrance. He has signed up for 10 volunteers to work between 12:30 and 3:30. He believes four people could do it in one hour. Please let him know if you are available.

**Grants Committee:** (Bill Hagar) The committee met before the board meeting and considered two applications for which it had requested more detail, and a third one:

- Mason Rice School: the committee recommended \$688 for materials, contingent upon the proponent raising the remaining costs.
- Horace Mann School: \$500 for photography materials
- Lincoln-Eliot School: \$750, contingent on the proponent raising the other \$1000.

A MOTION to approve all three recommendations was SECONDED and unanimously APPROVED.

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**New Business:**

**Water Sewer hearing on May 2:** Alderman Deb Crossley asks us to attend to support an appropriation for much needed infrastructure repairs to avoid repeated floodings.

**Adjournment:** at 9 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
AnnaMaria Abernathy, secretary

NEWTON CONSERVATORS, Inc.  
 Minutes of the Annual Meeting  
 7:00 PM  
 American Legion Post 440  
 Nonantum, MA

The evening events began at 6:00 o'clock with social gathering, silent auction, and hors d'oeuvres, followed by dinner.

During the business meeting, Lawlor Burdick presented the audit committee report and Katherine Howard the Treasurer's report, copies of which were on each table; they are appended to the file copy of these minutes

Michael Clarke presented the nominating committee report:  
 The Nominating Committee moves the following slate of Officers and Directors:

<b>Office</b>	<b>Nominee</b>
President:	Jane Sender
Vice-President:	George Mansfielda
Treasurer:	Katherine Howard
Secretary	AnnaMaria Abernathy
Past President	Beth Schroeder

**DIRECTORS:**

Margaret Albright	Henry Finch	Alison Leary
Octo Barnett	Robert Fizek	Pat Robinson
Dan Brody	Pete Gilmore	Eric Reenstierna
Larry Burdick	Dan Green	Larry Smith
Bonnie Carter	William Hagar	Willis Wang
Michael Clarke	Peter Kastner	Beth Wilkinson
Margaret Doris	Ted Kuklinski	

A nomination to elect the slate was seconded and unanimously approved.

The advisors were listed on sheets at each table:

Lisle Baker	Douglas Dickson	Eric Olson
Rodney Barker	Burton Elliott	Anne Pearson
John Bliss	Bart Hague	Richard Primack
Lee Breckenridge	Judith Hepburn	John Regosin
Lucy Caldwell-Stair	Duane Hillis	Bill Shaevel
Michael Collora	William Leitch	Verne Vance
Modestino (Cris) Criscitiello	Don Lubin	Brian Yates

Jane Sender gave the President's report, appended to the file copy of these minutes *also reprinted in the June/August 2011 issue of the Newsletter.*

Jane Sender announced the following awards, and the recipients received framed copies. *Full details in the June/August 2011 issue of the Conservators' Newsletter.*

**Environmentalists of the Trail Guide Committee**

The Newton Conservators' Award for 2011 was given to up of Pat Robinson, Dan Judy Hepburn.

**Charles Johnson Maynard Award: Suziette Barbier and Duane Hillis**

*The Charles Johnson Maynard Award is given each year to recognize efforts "to improve biodiversity, habitat reclamation, and natural resource protection."*

In 2011, the award went to Duane Hillis and Suzette Barbier for their work with the Friends of Nahanton Park.



**Year: Newton Conservators**

Environmentalist of the Year the Trail Guide Committee, made Brody, Lucy Caldwell-Stair and



**Directors' Award: Deborah and Frank**

**Howard**The Conservators gave Frank and Deborah Howard a Directors' Award for their lifetime of service to the Conservators, to conservation, and to Newton.

Following the business meeting, Bob Wilber, Director of Land Protection, Mass. Audubon Society, spoke, "The best tactic is hope" – outlining positive messages for conservation, and congratulating the Conservators on their 50 years of achievements. *Full details in the June/August 2011 issue of the Conservators' Newsletter.*

Last, silent auction winners received their items.

Respectfully submitted,

AnnaMaria Abernathy,  
Secretary



