

Newton Conservators

PO Box 0011
Newton Centre, Massachusetts 02459

Mr. Ira Wallach
Chairman, Conservation Commission
c/o Planning Department
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Ave.
Newton Centre, MA 02459

March 10, 2005

Dear Mr. Wallach,

The Newton Conservators, Inc. recommends to the Conservation Commission that the 30 acres of conservation land belonging to the City of Newton that runs along the Charles River east of Nahanton St. and south of Wells Ave. be named for Helen Heyn.

As you know, Helen was a founding member of the Newton Conservation Commission in 1966. Moreover, she was its mainstay in assisting the Conservation Commission as its Secretary for approximately 25 years, much of which was unpaid. Until very recently she has remained active and remains an Associate Member of the Commission. Helen's contributions to conservation and preserving open space in Newton are both numerous and legendary. Her intimate knowledge of *all* conservation and open space issues over decades made her an unparalleled resource long after her retirement. She was one of the initial organizers of the Newton Conservators and a key player in the Conservators' landmark 1973 survey of open space in Newton that was the precursor to Newton's first Open Space Plan. She was also an early member of the Charles River Watershed Association.

One possibility we have considered for naming this area is the "Helen Heyn Riverland Conservation Area".

Thank you for considering this way of honoring Helen Heyn, who for many decades has been at the forefront of preserving Newton's wetlands and open spaces.

Sincerely,

Eric Reenstierna
President, The Newton Conservators, Inc.