

## Mansfield Conservation Commission

Meeting of October 16, 2002 - Audrey P. Beck Building, Conf. Room B

**Call to Order:** 8:05 PM.

**Adjourn:** 9:15 PM

Note: late call to order due to informal discussion with Richard Miller and Tom Callahan from the University of Connecticut.

**Present:** *Members* - Robert Thorson, , Lance Minkler. Denise Burchstead, Mary Rodgers, Frank Trainor, Jennifer Kaufman *Staff* - Grant Meitzler *Visitors* - Richard Miller and Tom Callahan.

**Minutes:** Approved at 8:06 unanimously.

**Fenton Water Levels:** No comment.

**Lands of Unique Value:** Members shared their mutual concerns about the way the project will be viewed by town officials and the general public. We are not concerned with the obvious quality and facility of the mapping and its presentation. Rather we are concerned with the analysis of the data (especially the scientific rigor beneath map units such as wildlife corridors), which, once defined, take on a life of their own. Minkler mentioned that these concerns have been expressed before (especially by Silander in personal discussions with Minutti), both officially and unofficially. Appreciation was expressed to the Minnuti team for the amount of work relative to the budget.

**Welcome to Richard Miller:** Thorson moved, Rodgers seconded, unanimously passed the statement "The Mansfield Conservation Committee welcomes Richard Miller, University Environmental Manager, especially his legal expertise in environmental affairs, and looks forward to along and productive relationship."

**Mission Statement:** Burchstead/Rodgers, unanimous approval of Mission Statement. Thanks to Minkler for helping edit/re-write.

**Fenton Level A Mapping:** We can't do much until DEP addresses our concerns, especially the procedural ones, of the CC subcommittee memo. Thorson will follow up before next meeting on status.

### **PZC Referrals:**

***Pine Grove Estates:*** Kaufman, Rodgers, and Dahn will review the map and act on behalf of the Conservation Commission.

***Town Firepond Improvements on Route 32:*** Suggest that, due to new guardrail and DOT repairs, that the town go back to look at other alternatives that may have less impact.