

Minutes  
August 17, 2011  
Coe Memorial Park Committee

**Mission Statement**

To create within the downtown area of Torrington a first class horticultural oasis in accordance with and strict adherence to the intent of the Coe Godfrey benefactors and The Coe Family Trust.

**Present**

Coe Memorial Park Committee Members: Frank Pennington, Dr Isadore Temkin, Mark McEachern, Marc Trivella, Susan Coe Holbrook,

**Absent** Mary Zbell and Margaret Keywan

**Also Present** Park and Recreation Commissioner: Fran Ducotey

A **Motion** was made by Susan Coe Holbrook to accept the minutes of the July 20, 2011 meeting. It was seconded by Mark McEachern and passed unanimously.

The Coe Memorial Park Committee Members reviewed the Park & Recreation Commission responses to the previous month's motions.

**Park Operations**

A report from Superintendent Brett Simmons stated the following:

1. Currently working with Mike Zaharek on future phase of tree work. Stump grinding/removal and planting new or multiple new trees in the Ivy Glen. States this will be discussed at garden walk-through on 8/31.
2. Still working with Chris Ferrero of Fuss & O'Neil on scope of services for Master Plan.
3. Civic Center: General Maintenance
4. Grounds: General Maintenance; Fertilized Lawn.
5. The latest draft of the By-Laws was sent to the Committee for review and/or changes.

A **Motion** was made by Susan Coe Holbrook to confirm that only organic fertilizer was used in Coe Memorial Park. The Motion was seconded by Marc Trivella and passed unanimously.

A discussion took place between the Committee and Commissioner DuCotey regarding the Beech Tree. It was resolved that Fran would set up a meeting prior to 8/31/11 with Mike Zaharek and the Committee and anyone else who was interested in attending, to discuss the condition and status of treatment.

A discussion of the By-Laws as presented took place. All those present proposed minimal changes. Of particular concern was that all actions regarding Coe Memorial Park should be decided upon by all those involved with the Commission, Committee, and Superintendent.

Dr. Temkin reiterated his desire for a statement to be read prior to events at Coe Memorial Park outlining the gift from the Coe Family. After a brief discussion, Mark McEachern suggested a meeting with the Commission, the Committee and the Superintendent to discuss the mechanics of having such a statement read.

A **Motion** was made by Susan Coe Holbrook to send amended draft By-Laws to Ernestine Weaver. This Motion was seconded by Marc Trivella and passed unanimously.

A discussion was held regarding last month's motion by Margaret Keywan to have Park & Recreation Commission send a follow up letter to the group with the list of rules and regulations explaining that future rentals of Coe Memorial Park may be in jeopardy. It was thought that perhaps there was a misunderstanding of the motion. However, all agreed that the Freedom Hills church group should be put on notice that they violated the open fires rule.

Once again, the Committee discussed Education Connection's free use of Coe Memorial Park for the summer lunch program. Their continued use of the Park without paying puts unnecessary burden on the Trust and perhaps a joint meeting with the Commission, the Committee and the Mayor should take place to resolve the issue once and for all. Commissioner Fran Ducotey volunteered to discuss this option with the Commission. He will report back.

A **Motion** was made by Marc Trivella to ask Mayor Bingham to appoint Mark McEachern as an official member of the Committee. Discussion was held and all agreed he was already an official member and Susan Coe Holbrook stated the Mayor previously indicated no objection to the appointment. This Motion was seconded by Susan Coe Holbrook and passed unanimously.

A **Motion** was made by Dr. Temkin and seconded by Marc Trivella to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 p m.

The next meeting will be held on September 21, 2011 5:00 p.m. at City Hall auditorium.

Respectfully Submitted

*Susan Coe Holbrook*

Recorder of the Day