

Minutes

Coe Memorial Park Subcommittee

January 12, 2009 * rescheduled due to snowstorm, from January 7, 2009

Mission Statement

To create within the downtown area of Torrington a first class horticultural oasis in accordance with & Strict adherence to the Intent of the Coe Godfrey benefactors and the Coe Family Trust

Present

Parks & Recreation Director Brett Simmons

Parks & Recreation Chairperson Patricia Fairchild

Parks & Recreation Commissioners Duke Wall & Dan Lovallo

Coe Memorial Park Subcommittee Chairperson Fran Ducotey

Coe Memorial Park Subcommittee Members Susan Coe Holbrook, Margaret Keywan, Frank Pennington, Dr Isadore Temkin, & Mary Zbell

Absent

Coe Memorial Park Subcommittee Member Marc Trivella

Coe Memorial Park Subcommittee Member Emeritus Robert Driscoll

Fran Ducotey opened the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

A motion was made by Susan Coe Holbrook & seconded by Dr Isadore Temkin to accept the minutes of the November 5, 2008 meeting & the December 3, 2008 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Park & Recreation Director Brett Simmons reported the following:

Snow removal from sidewalks & parking lot

Fire Marshall reported that the hardware on the basement double doors needed to be replaced.

This will be taken care of next week.

Restroom repair parts ordered (1 pilaster & 1 door)

RFQ's for 2009 garden work received. Nine applications received, four are possible candidates. These shall be interviewed next week by the Search Committee.

Ct DEP Forester Chris Donnelly will meet January 26, 2009 at 2 p.m. for a walk thru the park evaluating, assessing & identifying the trees.

Chairman Fran Ducotey questioned the overnight parking ban in Coe Memorial Park as there have been infractions of late. Susan Coe Holbrook related that an employee of the Social Security Administration has been spoken to several times in regard to parking and disregards the warning. Director Simmons will speak to the Police department in this regard.

Margaret Keywan stated that the fleur-de-lis on the bank side and the dance floor have been intermittent lately. Director Simmons related that Kennedy electric had been out to investigate the problem, but the cause is yet to be determined. Susan Coe Holbrook inquired if it could be due to faulty plugs installed by Valmark. Mary Zbell inquired if the underground wires had to be replaced, how would this effect the irrigation?

Ms Keywan inquired as to why there were two lamps at the Civic Center that had no decoration upon them. It was made clear that **All** lamps were to have the decoration plus two additional had been purchased. Where were they? She also stated that if new ones needed to be purchased that Riley's has a sale in January. Director Simmons will look into the matter & report at the next meeting.

Mary Zbell expressed that the burlap used in Coe Memorial Park was unsightly and served no useful purpose. It is the bulbs that needed to be covered with compost & spruce boughs in order to be protected from road salt not shrubs that were high & away from the road. Definite specifications need to be given next year related Frank Pennington

Dr Isadore Temkin said that there is a standard to uphold in Coe Memorial Park & that the Coe Memorial Park Subcommittee intends fully to uphold that standard. The annuals versus the perennials is a cost versus cost argument that is mute when color is desired three seasons. If this means spending a few more thousand dollars, then it should be done. He also related that there is no oversight to the projects done in the park and this must be addressed.

A motion was made by Mary Zbell & seconded by Frank Pennington to accept the 2009 meeting schedule. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Ducotey introduced the Capital Improvement Budget. Margaret Keywan emphatically stated that per the Probate Court all Coe Funds were to be kept separate and not co-mingled with General Funds, therefore this was an illegal document. Susan Coe Holbrook remarked that there was \$35,000 supposedly allocated for what? Additionally, she stated there was an unexplained \$880 charge for "Program Expenditures" out of the Master Plan Fund. Also, there was a reference to Federal fund application on the budget. On a motion from Mary Zbell & seconded by Susan Coe Holbrook no State or Federal fund money will be used in Coe Memorial Park. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Temkin motioned that all capital improvements be suspended until further notice. Susan Coe Holbrook seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

Once again Margaret Keywan inquired as to where the plants were being stored. Chairman Fran Ducotey stated that the grasses were moved to Wamogo High School & that the tubers were in the basement of the Armory. Ms Keywan sated that she was worried how sterile the plants would be returning to the park.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mary Zbell & seconded by Susan Coe Holbrook. The motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be held February 4, 2009 at the Armory

Respectfully submitted

Margaret K Keywan

Recording Secretary

