

Minutes
Coe Memorial Park Subcommittee
June 3, 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 Superintendent J. Brett Simmons
Parks & Recreation Chairperson Patricia Fairchild
Parks & Recreation Commissioner Jim Pescatore
Coe Memorial Park Subcommittee Members: Susan Coe Holbrook, Margaret Keywan, Frank Pennington, Dr Isadore Temkin, Marc Trivella, Mary Zbell

Absent

Coe Memorial Park Subcommittee Member Emeritus Robert Driscoll

Patricia Fairchild opened the meeting at 5:15 pm

A motion was made by Susan Coe Holbrook and seconded by Mary Zbell to accept the minutes of the May 6, 2009 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Park & Recreation Superintendent J Brett Simmons distributed the following:

- The monthly agenda for Coe Memorial Park Civic Center - Up-dated version for May & June 2009
- The budget performance report
- Report regarding the Copper Beech Tree from Mike Zaharek & Chris Donnelly
- Proposal from Mike Zaharek regarding safety pruning and treatment of the copper beech tree
- Request from Still River Gardens to revamp the irrigation system allowing access by that firm and the park & recreation employees
- Proposal from Artistic Irrigation for the irrigation request totaling \$2375
- Plant list from Still River Gardens
- Summer Concert Series held in Coe Memorial Park - June 16 to August 21
- Mayor's Polka Night September 11, 2009 at City Hall

Superintendent Simmons reported the lawn had been fertilized with Cock-a-doodle-doo that was surplus from 2008. A bid process has been conducted for an organic fertilizer for the 2009 season.

After a brief discussion regarding the copper beech tree and surroundings was conducted, the main concern was that the copper beech tree in front of the Torrington Library seems to have the same fungus upon it, yet their arborist claims that the tree is fine. If we treat our tree, will it be infected again by the proximity of the neighboring beech trees? Superintendent Simmons will research this matter and report back at the next meeting. A motion was made by Margaret Keywan and seconded by Mary Zbell to have Mike Zaharek use the fungicide recommended and also do the compost tree round. The motion passed unanimously.

A second motion made by Mary Zbell and seconded by Marc Trivella to have Mike Zaharek also do the safety pruning all for the total sum of \$2200. The motion passed unanimously.

A discussion regarding the irrigation request from Still River Gardens & Superintendent Brett Simmons ensued. The result was a motion **made by Susan Coe Holbrook and seconded by Dr Isadore Temkin to deny the proposal from Artistic Irrigation & to have the irrigation system remain as is with NO changes.**

Superintendent Simmons reported that the fountain once again was off & having problems. The Water Pollution Control Authority has been contacted. Margaret Keywan stated that it seems we are buying a pump annually. Is there a design flaw? Susan Coe Holbrook noted that this week the water was brown and full of algae in the fountain.

Frank Pennington related that he had seen park & recreation employees smoking with gas cans nearby in the wooden carriage house. This is an OSHA violation & fine would be hefty for the city if discovered. Superintendent Simmons will investigate the matter.

Margaret Keywan inquired why we have to use the city's electrician, which now is Connole Electric. In order to circumvent this situation we must go to city council and request a change. Frank Pennington asked if a city inspector could view the completed performance. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Marc Trivella & seconded by Susan Coe Holbrook to table this matter for a year. The motion passed unanimously.

Frank Pennington related that for over two years a piece of molding has been hanging off the carriage house. Could some employee please tack this back? Superintendent Simmons will handle this matter.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dr Isadore Temkin and seconded by Margaret Keywan. The motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be held July 1, 2009 at 5:15pm at the Armory.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret K Keywan

Recording Secretary