

Minutes  
Coe Memorial Park Subcommittee  
July 1, 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 Commissioners Jim Pescatore and Dan Lovallo  
Coe Memorial Park Subcommittee Members: Susan Coe Holbrook, Margaret Keywan, Frank Pennington, Dr Isadore Temkin, Marc Trivella and Mary Zbell

**Absent**

Coe Memorial Park Subcommittee Member Emeritus Robert Driscoll

Prior to the meeting, a scheduled walk-thru of the park was held under the portico due to the rain. Discussed was the rainy effect upon the flowers, the cutting down of daffodils and tulips prior to their maturity, the lack of vibrant color, dividing of perennials and general gardening. A garden report was handed out by Lori Stickney detailing the scope of work and hours. Present were Lori and Jeremy Stickney and Elizabeth Zeller of Still River Gardens. An additional walk-thru will take place at the end of the summer.

Patricia Fairchild opened the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

A motion was made by Susan Coe Holbrook and seconded by Marc Trivella to accept the minutes of the June 3, 2009 meeting. The motion passed unanimously

Park and Recreation Superintendent J. Brett Simmons distributed the following:

- The monthly agenda for Coe Memorial Park Civic Center..Updated version #2
- The Budget performance report.
- Removal of flammable materials from Carriage House. The “no smoking signs” not posted as yet. OSHA violation
- Sprinkler sensor information from Artistic Irrigation...awaiting reply from Bob McCarthy
- Clean up from recent storm. Many limbs down in the park.
- Re-contact Mike Zaharek in regard to damage from recent storm and raising canopy in some areas i.e., fountain area. Also the re-seeding and regrinding of stump near dance floor.
- Copper Beech report
- West State Mechanical has sent the 5hp pump to the supplier for replacement as it is under warranty. Water Pollution Control Authority supplying 3hp pump in the interim.

Frank Pennington stated that the Carriage House was beginning to peel again. This building will have to be re-painted in the near future. Perhaps there could be volunteers used in this project.

Frank also inquired again as to the wiring on the troublesome poles. Superintendent Simmons replied that it was standard THHN10 gauge wiring.

**Once again the Superintendent stated that he was satisfied with the work of Connole Electric.**

Susan Coe Holbrook pointed out that according to the performance report just handed out that there was **No** money for rentals going into the Coe Godfrey Trust. Superintendent Simmons will investigate the matter. Ms Holbrook noted that there were several deferments of janitorial fees which is against the voted upon Fee Schedule. She took particular exception to the waiving of fees for the Education Connection lunch program stating that they have use of the kitchen and the restrooms during their hour and a half lunch for a month and a half. Ms. Fairchild stated the Commission reviewed the use by Education Connection and could find no financial impact to the Trust. Ms. Holbrook countered that they have use of the electricity and the water during this event and should be paying at least the \$50 maintenance fee per day. Ms. Holbrook stated that the Commission was setting dangerous precedents.

A proposal to treat again the copper beech tree and surrounding ground area for a total of \$1,200 by Mike Zaharek was made by Marc Trivella and seconded by Mary Zbell. The motion passed unanimously.

A discussion followed in regard to seeking out historic disease resistant elms for the park. Mary Zbell and Margaret Keywan will visit a nursery specializing in these trees in Mattapoisett, MA and report at the next meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn by Susan Coe Holbrook and seconded by Marc Trivella. The motion passed unanimously.

Prior to the September 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting at 3:30 p.m. there will be a walk-thru with Mike Zaharek

The next meeting will be held at the Armory on August 5, 2009 at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Margaret K Keywan*

Recording Secretary