

Coe Memorial Park Committee

Minutes

March 20, 2013

Mission Statement: *To create within the downtown area of Torrington a first class horticultural oasis in accordance with and strict adherence to the Coe Godfrey benefactors and the Coe Family Trust*

Present: Coe Memorial Park Committee Members: Chairman Susan Coe Holbrook, Dr Isadore Temkin, Mary Zbell, Marc Trivella. Mark McEachern and Margaret Keywan

Absent: Lorie Chiron

Also Present: Nancy Holbrook & Frank Pennington

Chairman Susan Coe Holbrook called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

A Motion was made by Mary Zbell and seconded by Margaret Keywan to accept the minutes of the January 23, 2013 meeting and the February 27, 2013 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments: Frank Pennington relates that on February 28, 2013 the Gulf War Veterans met at the Civic Center. Although the blizzard snow storm happened on February 8 & 9 2013, according to the US Weather Bureau, there was eighteen inches of snow on the main steps of the Civic Center. Some Veterans had difficulty using the side entrance. **Why was this area not shoveled for such a long period of time?**

Frank also inquired as to why the holiday lights were still in place as of March almost until Easter. The Coe Memorial Park Committee has previously requested (at January 2012 meeting) that the lights be taken down and stored by the middle of January (or February at the latest).

Nancy Holbrook inquired why the prices for the vacuum and floor polisher were so high and where did these quoted prices come from? What is the holdup since November? Chairman Susan Coe Holbrook handed out more reasonable prices from ULINE that were more in line with the budget. The Committee agreed to **table** this matter to the next meeting when Frank Waldron will return from vacation.

Superintendent Report

- **Phase II Renovations**
- **Tree Work*contractual effect of Phase II**
- **Gardens SRG*contract signed without Coe Memorial Park Committee viewing final draft**
- **Civic Center**
- **Grounds**
- **Other: Working upon RFP for 2014 Garden contract...**
Vacuum prices \$500 Floor polisher \$4,000-\$5,000

A Motion was made by Doc Temkin to table the issue of the vacuum and floor polisher; to speak to Frank about the items presented by the Chairperson; and to get a quote from Torrington Maintenance. The Motion passed unanimously.

A discussion regarding Phase II contract checking references by the public works department ensued; Particularly the Tree work contract with Mike Zaharek, irrigation with Artistic & the electrical work with Connole Electric. The question raised specifically was if another sub-contractor is employed by the Phase

If contractor is this then a violation of the original contract with Connole & Zaharek & Artistic? **This matter referred to Superintendent and City Counsel for opinion.**

A Motion was made by Dr Isadore Temkin as to the specific status of the 2014 RFP for the gardens at Coe Memorial Park as time is passing rapidly. The motion was seconded by Mary Zbell and passed unanimously.

Dr Temkin also stated that Coe Memorial Park is a passive park – not a recreational facility. Funds from the Coe Godfrey Trust are to be used **“solely for the Care, Maintenance and Improvement of the PARK”**. The intent of the Trust and the gift must be honored. **Since this gift has been given to the citizens of Torrington what additional trusts have been left to the city? Why can't Coe Memorial Park be run similar to the Torrington Library?**

Permanent Motion by Dr. Isadore Temkin that the Parks & Recreation offer of repayment of the CL&P billing error is **not** accepted by the Coe Memorial Park Committee and that the amount of \$11,680.87 is to be reimbursed. Unless otherwise agreed upon or reformulated, this matter shall be resolved by the Probate Court. Until such time this Motion shall be repeated monthly.

Reviewing the calendars for the Civic Center Chairman Susan Coe Holbrook noted that the Legos workshops had been cancelled for February, yet after speaking to a participant at the Civic Center on this date, there was a workshop on-going.

A Motion was made by Margaret Keywan to show the Coe Memorial Park Committee the specific line item (revenue print-out) that returns the \$3,450 collected for rentals to the Trust.

Permanent Motion for the reimbursement for **11** Mity-Lite tables entrusted to the Parks & Recreation Department be returned to the Trust. This shall be a permanent motion until such time as the Park & Recreation commission resolves this issue or the Probate Court renders a decision

A Motion was made by Mary Zbell to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 p.m. This was seconded by Margaret Keywan and passed unanimously

The next meeting shall be held at 5:00 p.m. at the Coe Memorial Park Civic Center on April 17, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret K Keywan
Secretary