

Minutes

Coe Memorial Park Committee

March 21, 2012

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: Susan Coe Holbrook, Dr Isadore Temkin, Mark McEachern, Mary Zbell and Margaret Keywan

Also Attending Parks and Recreation Superintendent Brett Simmons

Absent Coe Memorial Park Committee Chairman Frank Pennington

Coe Memorial Park Committee Member Marc Trivella

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 P M by Mary Zbell

A motion was made by Mark McEachern to accept the minutes of the February 15, 2012 meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr Isadore Temkin and passed unanimously.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Brett Simmons delivered in detail the Park Operations Report.

The storm of October 2011 produced a great deal of damage to the trees of a critical nature to the public in most areas of the park. The \$8,000 contract with Mike Zaharek was used and the remainder (an undisclosed sum) was taken out of the grounds maintenance budget.

Superintendent Simmons related that he had submitted a statement to FEMA for reimbursement but doubted that it was going to be reimbursed as FEMA has specific guidelines that were not followed in this case. Margaret Keywan inquired why the Coe Memorial Park Committee was not informed of this matter as in previous involvements the Coe Memorial Park Committee voted **not to accept any government funds**. No response from Superintendent Simmons.

From this date until June safety pruning will be done. It was advised by the Committee that pruning should be held off until the tree climbing event takes place in May as the association will trim the trees to be used.

Application to the Copper Beech while keeping a watchful on progression will be handled by Mike Zaharek. Stump removal of tree #65 and #107 will take place shortly. Severe damage to trees #37, #65, #106, #107, #109 was a result of the devastating storm. Mike Zaharek has divided the park into zones to work effectively now and in the future. A Norway maple will be removed by CL&P and two other trees are in decline that should be removed: two will be replaced. A complete tree inventory by Mike Zaharek detailing the condition of trees and projected expenditures was handed out. At some future date the Committee will meet with Mike Zaharek to discuss plans for 2012.

Dr Isadore Temkin inquired why there was not more color and daffodils in the park and where did they all go? Daffodils are known to replicate rapidly and originally there were several hundred in the park. Superintendent Simmons stated that he **will not speak** about issues unless the person is present (SRG) therefore no answer was forthcoming.

Mark McEachern demonstrated a mock size of the signs to be affixed to the granite posts in the house footprint. They will be 24x30 in size with a printed image and wording to be determined. The composite structure of the signs is protected for 10 years .Cost will be **\$2108** for the signs and **\$690** to inscribe the information by Giordano Sign Co. At future meetings the determination of pictures and wording will be decided upon.

A motion was made by Susan Coe Holbrook and seconded by Margaret Keywan to proceed with this project. The motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Susan Coe Holbrook and seconded by Mark McEachern to adjourn the meeting at 6:35P M. The motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be held 5pm April 18, 2012 at city hall.

Respectfully Submitted

Margaret K Keywan

Recording secretary