



CITY OF TORRINGTON

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

1. Call to Order: 7:06pm, Land Use Office, Room 324, 140 Main Street, Torrington, CT.

2. Roll Call & Announcements:

Members: Chris Altman, Tara Jo Holmberg, Diane Carroll, Butch Klug, Reese Piper & staff Kim Barbieri

It came up that Scot Whittaker has not attended a meeting since fall of 2012 and no longer answers staff's e-mail requests for status of his membership. The Commission felt we needed everyone to participate since so much is going on with the commission. A vote was taken to vacate Scot's seat and get a replacement. The vote was unanimous. K Barbieri will send a formal letter out. B Klug gave a name of someone who might be interested.

3. Minutes for Approval:

11/14/13 Minutes – Motion to Approve TJ Holmberg, 2nd by D Carroll Vote passed unanimously

4. Treasurer's Report:

Current Open Space Account Balance: \$38,272.02

5. New Business:

a. Jeff Smith of *Bordewick Engineering Sales* gave a presentation about their new reduced cost rain barrel program [the presentation took place before the formal meeting started from 6:40-7:00]. The program involves no upfront cost for the City. We just have to help get the word out that these rain barrels are available for the very reduced cost \$79 and normally retail for \$150. The rain barrel is their "Ivy" style 50 gallon rain barrel with linking hoses, screen and ball valve spigot. *Bordewick* would handle the sales themselves via a website set up specifically for our residents.

Discussion: The Commission discussed the program and had a few questions such as 'Will there be a minimum order?' or 'Can we have a sample barrel here for people to look at?' B. Klug had already asked if the company could donate a couple for raffling off and Jeff indicated that that could probably happen. It was decided that the pickup date would coincide with the Earth Day Cleanup event on April 26, 2014.

Overall the Commission felt this was a good deal and one that we should make available to the citizens. K Barbieri was to touch base with Jeff to set u the program.

6. Old Business:

a. CC Open Space inventory and update: D Carroll and C Altman are interested in working on this project. We will tentatively meet to work on this Thursday 1/16/14 time to be determined.

b. Grant Update: As far as we know we are still in the running for the DEEP Trails Grant.

c. Open Discussion: Everyone received the *Solarize* e-mail. This program we had a presentation on in October but felt pushed to get the program started on time. This time the timing seems better. The Commission felt it too was a good program to make available for the Citizens of Torrington and asked that staff fill out all forms to get things moving. In the mean time Kim was to get a list of all solar energy users in Torrington and get their contact information to Chris.

7. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47pm Motion made by D Carroll, 2nd by B Klug

Kimberly H. Barbieri, CZ&WEO
Staff to Conservation Commission