



City of Torrington
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, June 25, 2015
SPECIAL Meeting

1. Call to Order: 6:30pm, Land Use Office, Room 324,140 Main Street, Torrington, CT.
2. Roll Call & Announcements: Members: John Czapor, Jim Fedorich, Dan McGuinness & staff Rista Malanca
Others present: Chris Rabago & Henry Nyguen

3. Minutes for Approval:

- a. May 14, 2015 – Regular Meeting

Motion made by Mr. Fedorich seconded by Mr. Czapor it was voted to approve the May 14, 2015 Regular meeting minutes. MR. Czapor & Fedorich in favor. Mr. McGuinness abstain.

4. Treasurer's Report:

- a. Open Space Fund – No update
- b. Operating Budget Update

- i. Request from TTN – improvements @ Buttrick Trailhead -The TTN has received a kiosk and gate from the state of CT to place on City property located at the trail head for Buttrick Trail. In order to hire a contractor to install these items it will cost just over \$1,000. TTN has some money to pay for a portion of this work and has asked the Conservation Commission if they would be willing to fund this project jointly.

Motion made by Mr. Czapor seconded by Mr. Fedorich it was voted to pay \$500 towards the cost of installation of the gate and kiosk located at the trailhead for Buttrick Trail. Vote Unanimous.

5. New Business:

- a. Anti- Litter Campaign (Meet intern Henry Nguyen) – Henry asked the Commissioners how they envisioned the anti-litter campaign to unfold. The Commissioners talked in length about the different paths this campaign could go. Some of the ideas were to involve high school students in some sort of competition, signs and banners and adopt a road program. The Commission thought that launching the campaign at this year's Clean Up the World Day would be a good addition to this event.
- b. 2015 Clean Up the World Day – In addition to the clean up the commission recommended that an electronic recycling drop off be added to help encourage recycling and educating resident on what can be recycled.
- c. Besse Park Pond – Mr. Fedorich suggested that this Commission begin fundraising to dredge out Besse Park Pond and that the City establish an account were any funds

raised could be deposited. Mr. Fedorich has spoken to a few people who would be willing to donate to this cause if there was an account setup specifically for this purpose. The Commission feels that this pond should be dredged and used as a community fishing pond. This Commission is committed to working with local officials and other Boards/Commissions as well as fundraising for this project.

Motion made by Mr. Fedorich seconded by Mr. Czapor it was voted that the clean out of this pond is a priority of the Conservation Commission and to support and actively fundraise for this project. Vote Unanimous.

6. Old Business:

a. Update on CC Open Space inventory

- i. Set up schedule of site visits - It was decided to wait until the fall to begin Site Walks. The best time for Commissioners present would be at 5:00 to start the site walks.

7. Committee or Board updates:

a. Torrington Trails Network

- i. 2013 Trail Rec Grant – No update
- ii. 2015 Trail Rec Grant – A grant application to construct 2.6 miles of the NRG from Franklin Street to Bouge Road Bridge was submitted to DEEP. The Commission strongly supports this application and asked the Chairman to write a letter supporting the application on their behalf.

- b. Naugatuck River Greenway Steering Committee - NRG Committee is working with CT Greenways Council and UCONN to do a state wide trail survey which would provide all communities in the state the data required to do an economic development study.

8. Open Discussion/Public Comment: - None

9. Adjournment:

Motion made by Mr. Fedorich seconded by Mr. McGuinness it was voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:35pm. Vote Unanimous.

Rista Malanca, CZ&WEO
Staff to Conservation Commission
Cc: City Clerk, Mayor's Office