



City of Torrington
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, September 18, 2014
Special Meeting

1. Call to Order: 6:57pm, Land Use Office, Room 324,140 Main Street, Torrington, CT.
2. Roll Call & Announcements:
Members present: Chris Altman, Tara Jo Holmberg, Reese Piper, John Czapor & staff Rista Malanca
Others present: Keith & Elaine Mutch
3. Minutes for Approval:
Motion made by Ms. Holmberg seconded by Mr. Piper to approve the minutes from 5/8/14 – Regular Meeting and 8/18/14 – Special Meeting as submitted; Vote Unanimous.
4. Treasurer's Report:
 - a. Open Space Fund: No change from previous month
 - b. Operating Budget Update: There is currently \$10,047.90 remaining in this budget.
 - c. Approve invoice for Giordano Signs: 10 yard signs were purchased to help promote Clean up the World Day. The invoice is \$190.00 for these signs.
Motion made by Ms. Holmberg seconded by Mr. Piper to approve payment of the invoice to Giordano Signs in the amount of \$190.00 - Vote Unanimous
5. New Business:
 - a. Preliminary discussion regarding Disk Golf: Ms. Malanca briefly discussed the possibility of creating a disk golf course on City Property. The Commission is generally supportive of this type of use as it appears to have a low impact on its surroundings. Mr. Piper stated that he has built Disk Golf Courses and the only issue he has observed was that a lot of litter was left on the course. He suggests that we incorporate the placement of garbage cans throughout the course and plan on routine maintenance of the course if it is constructed.

- b. Vacant Seat on Board: Ms. Malanca stated that there is currently a vacancy on the board if anyone knows someone who would be interested in becoming a Commission member they should contact her for further information.

6. Old Business:

- a. Clean up the world Day: The Commission discussed the details with Keith and Elaine Mutch. 75 bag lunches will be donated by Salerno's Deli. Carl's True Value Hardware has donated gloves and garbage bags; Mr. Mutch has picked them up already and will bring them to the event. All members should arrive between 8 and 8:15 to help setup. The Commission feels that donuts and coffee should be supplied for the volunteers

Motion made by Ms. Holmberg seconded by Mr. Piper to approve the purchase of donuts and coffee for Clean Up the World Day – Vote Unanimous

Mr. Mutch will bring “Awesome” stickers for all volunteers. Ms. Malanca has drafted thank you “business cards” for all volunteers as well.

Motion made by Mr. Piper seconded by Mr. Czapor to approve the purchase of 150 (15 sheets) of thank you business cards from Staples – Vote Unanimous.

- b. CC Open Space inventory and update: The Commission has asked Ms. Malanca to make a list of all the areas so at the next meeting they can prioritize the areas they want to study.
- c. Open Discussion: No discussion took place

7. Committee or Board updates

- a. Torrington Trails Network: Ms. Malanca updated the Commission on the grants from DEEP. Some studies still need to be completed but the grant seems to be moving along and it is likely that it will be granted prior to 10/1/14.
- b. Naugatuck River Greenway Steering Committee: The Naugatuck River Greenway Steering Committee will be meeting in Torrington for their next meeting to discuss brownfields along the river. They will visit the new parking lot along Franklin Street.

- c. National Parks Services: John Monroe will be working with the City to organize a one day charette this fall to come up with a master plan incorporating trails and sidewalks.
- d. Solarize: The SolarizeTorrington program has ended with a total of 17 sales. Ms. Malanca stated that this was a successful program and feels that it has increased awareness of solar throughout the City.

8. Adjournment:

Motion made by Ms. Holmberg seconded by Mr. Czapor to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm

Rista Malanca, CZ&WEO
Staff to Conservation Commission

cc: P/Z, IWC, City Clerk, Mayor's Office