



**CITY OF TORRINGTON**  
**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**March 8, 2011**

1. Call to Order: 6:13pm in City Hall, Land Use Office, 140 Main Street, Torrington, CT.
2. Roll Call & Announcements:  
Present were Chris Altman, Linda Beyus, Scott Whittaker, Butch Klug and David Waugh. Also present was staff person Kim Barbieri and guest Kevin Litten.
3. Minutes for Approval:
  - a. 1/11/11 – Linda Beyus made a motion to APPROVE the minutes. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Butch Klug. Vote passed unanimously with 1 abstention.
4. Treasurer's Report:
  - a. Report: The Open Space fund had no activity and remains at \$44,966.79.
5. Old Business:
  - a. **Conservation topics with newspaper**: Topic tabled until Brian Reardon could be in attendance.
  - b. **Earth Day Clean Up – April 30**: Kim Barbieri updated the Commission on progress. New yard signs have been ordered and everything is on track for the event.  
Chris Altman showed the group a flyer from an environmental puppeteer/performer called the “*Ivy Vine Players Puppet Theater*”. She thought it may be a good match with our Earth Day event. Discussion followed and it was decided that the Commission would want to sponsor her but not for the Earth day event but for one of the summer street fairs put on by the Arts & Culture Commission. The idea was expanded to see if we could partner with the A&CC to theme a street fair with conservation and the environment and we would pay for *The Ivy Vine Players* to come. Kim Barbieri was to contact Rose Ponte and the A&CC to see what their thoughts were on the subject.
  - c. **Naugatuck River Clean Up – June 4**: Kim Barbieri updated the Commission on progress. New yard signs have been ordered and everything is on track for the event. She mentioned the need this year for some type of flyer or board to have available to participants in the clean up to let them know what was happening with the river and the ‘up side’ to all the clearing. The Commission felt it was a good idea to provide some information and that idea should be pursued.
  - d. **New Earth Day & River Clean Up Signs**: New signs have been ordered and reformatted to allow easier multi-year use.
  - e. **Fundraising Calendar**: The last the Commission discussed the calendar we were going to put one together on our own. A second idea came up to partner with CAFTA, the new academy for the arts on Main Street, to hold a photography competition for the calendar. We could work with CAFTA to find sponsors for prizes for the photographers and for helping fund the printing of the calendars showing off the visual resources of Torrington (e.g. historical, natural resources). It was decided it would be best if no people were allowed in the photos to avoid any issues with waivers. The competition could be held in May/early June, and the calendars ordered after for a July delivery. Kim Barbieri is to contact Teresa Sullivan from CAFTA to see if they are willing to partner with the CC.
6. New Business: none

7. Staff Report:

- a. **Torrington Trails Network:** The TTN is going well. The group has chosen a ‘free-form’ group structure that will change based on the current project being worked on. Other trail projects could be in the wings and when it came time to move on them – new leaders would emerge to get that project done. The boys trail that was promoted in the newspapers behind K-Mart has been selected by the group for possible greenway designation status with the DEP – that paperwork will be submitted in May for a hopeful June designation. The greenway designation will help with any future funding. Also the group is interested in holding a more detailed public forum for explaining what trails exist in Torrington and what exactly it would take to get the trails blazed, mapped and preserved.
- b. **LID Inland Wetland Regulation Changes:** Anticipated approval at the March IWC meeting. Kim Barbieri reviewed what Low Impact Development is and what examples are built or being planned in Torrington.
- c. **Open Discussion:** none

8. Adjournment:

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

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