



CITY OF TORRINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
March 13, 2012

- 1) Call to Order: 6:45pm in City Hall, Land Use Office, Room 324, 140 Main Street, Torrington, CT.
- 2) Roll Call & Announcements:
 - i) Attending tonight's meeting were Brian Reardon, Tara Jo Holmberg, Gary Eucalitto, Butch Klug and Chris Altman. Also in attendance was staff person Kim Barbieri.
- 3) Minutes for Approval:
 - a) 12/06/11 : Motion to APPROVE by T. Holmberg, 2nd by G. Eucalitto. Vote passed unanimously.
- 4) Treasurer's Report:
 - a) Report:
- 5) Old Business:
 - a) Goals for 2012:
 - i) Work on open space project with Torrington Historical Society
 - ii) Review City Ordinances for open space, funding, litter control etc.
 - iii) Earth Day and River cleanups
 - b) New Conservation Commission members were discussed and three names were chosen to pursue.
- 6) New Business:
 - a) Torrington Trails Meetings Update: The TTN has moved their main meeting with John Monroe to Tuesday night coinciding with the Conservation Commission. To allow Commission members and TTN members to attend each other's meetings the B. Klug recommended moving our meeting day/time to first the Thursday. It was agreed to change – Kim will create a new calendar to approve and file.
 - b) Maintenance of Open Space: Open Space funds were used by the city for removal of hazardous trees on existing preserved land. The trees posed a threat to a neighbor's home. The use of open space fund for maintenance was discussed and the Commission will review further to make changes to the way we do business as far as maintenance. Other costs could potentially occur including boundary marking, stream clearing etc. thereby depleting our open space funds for acquiring new open space or easements.
 - c) Urban Water Small Grant – EPA grant was applied for in January. We hope to find out if we will receive funds to design a new trail system along the flood project south of downtown.
 - d) Earth Day Organization –
 - i) Tara Jo will contact CRRA to see if she can borrow recycling boards and will bring her display of vermiculture.
 - ii) Kim will make sure we have enough tables from the Civic building to set up displays. She will also organize dumpsters, bags, gloves, water and lunch. Kim to see if we have an 'extra' earth machine left over we could set up. Noon the rain barrel giveaway will take place at the Civic Center.
 - iii) Gary is in charge of kick-off items like coffee, munchkins etc. and will assist Kim in signing in volunteers.

- iv) Brian is coordinating efforts with Lowe's or NWCD for a display on native plants and providing information on alternative to using invasive plants. Chris will help with brochures and with the manning of the natives display.
- e) Lippincott Property: next meeting 3/20. T. Holmberg suggested we look into USDA or Working Lands Alliance for assistance.

7) Staff Report:

- a) None

8) Adjournment:

- a) Motion to adjourn B. Klug, 2nd by G. Eucalitto. Vote passed unanimously. Meeting closed at 8:27pm.

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

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