



**CITY OF TORRINGTON**  
**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**MEETING Minutes**  
**September 13, 2011**

1. Call to Order: 6:20pm in City Hall, Land Use Office, Room 324, 140 Main Street, Torrington, CT.
2. Roll Call & Announcements:
  - a. L. Beyus, S. Whittaker, C. Altman, G. Eucalitto, B. Klug & staff K. Barbieri
3. Minutes for Approval:
  - a. 5/10/11 – Motion to approve G. Eucalitto, 2<sup>nd</sup> L. Beyus – Vote: All Motion passed unanimously.
4. Treasurer’s Report:
  - a. \$190 was spent on new Torrington Trails Maps and the \$410 was issued for Grian MacGregor (Ivy-Vine Players). The Ivy-Vine check is being held until Ms. MacGregor can come perform since the Marketplace was cancelled the night she had booked.
5. Old Business:
  - a. The “Green’ Thursday Marketplace summary: the new trails maps were snatched up in record time and the last map (of 100) were handed out around 8:00pm. 21 copies of plans for bat houses were taken and more information was dispersed about local bat conservation efforts. Other information passed out included information on Trout Unlimited, organic gardening and passes for the Torrington Historical Society’s *Downtown Photo Album* exhibit were handed out. Overall a very successful event.
  - b. Conservation topics with newspaper - tabled
6. New Business:
  - a. Torrington Trails Meetings Update – KB stated everyone was getting regular updates via e-mail. If anyone doesn’t want them, let her know, otherwise we’ll continue to keep the Commission up to date on their activities and forgo the line item on the agenda each month.
  - b. Changing Ordinance for Conservation Commission to allow more members – After much discussion the Commission chose to include 2 alternate members. KB will write up the draft for official approval next month, it would then be taken to the City Council for approval to change the City Ordinance.  
Linda Beyus, having been on the Commission from the start, is relinquishing her spot on the Commission to focus on other aspects of her life. She anticipates her last month to be December 2011 unless someone new is ready to take her place. She will be greatly missed as she was a steady and active participant in the Commission’s work.
7. Staff Report:
  - a. Open Discussion -  
GE asked about our Open Space fund and why it didn’t gain much in monies. We are limited by new lot sales from subdivisions without designated open space. Between the depressed real estate market and low land values, we just are building up the money required to purchase the land or easements we need. GE asked if we could consider open space fees in association with commercial or multi-family construction. KB is going to research the legality of this based on some new court cases and will forward those cases to all members.

KB asked that all members think about what one thing they think the Commission should focus on for next year. It could be additional events – like another clean up or marketplace or they could consider working on creating policy changes to ordinances and regulations to make it easier to protect land or create trails.

8. Adjournment:

6:58pm Motion to adjourn made by GE, 2<sup>nd</sup> LB. Vote passed unanimously.

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

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