



**CITY OF TORRINGTON**  
**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 10, 2011**

1. Call to Order: 6:05pm in City Hall, Land Use Office, 140 Main Street, Torrington, CT.
2. Roll Call & Announcements:
  - a. Attending are Gary Eucalitto, Linda Beyus, Scott Whittaker, Brian Reardon & Butch Klug. Also attending was staff person Kim Barbieri.
3. Minutes for Approval:
  - a. 3/8/11 – Motion for approval made by LB, 2<sup>nd</sup> by GE. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Treasurer's Report:
  - a. KB passed out a copy of the treasurer's report. The Open Space Fund is unmoved again and remains at \$44,966.79.
5. Old Business:
  - a. **Conservation topics with newspaper** – BR has completed the writing and will be e-mailing it to LB for editing before submittal to the paper.
  - b. **Earth Day Clean Up – April 30** – summary – The clean up went very well. A big 'thanks' to all members who attended and helped out. The event was well attended with 50-60 people estimated. It's hard to say how much we picked up because the dumpster wasn't delivered – but it seemed like a lot. Some groups reported their sites looking pretty good this year – others were at their sites and barely made a dent. Our Chairman Chris thought a fall clean up would be warranted – the answer received was a resounding 'yes' including Mayor Bingham!
  - c. **Naugatuck River Clean Up – June 4** – A little easier clean up since Trout Unlimited takes the major role in organizing the event. Meet at 8:30 (the clean up starts at 9:00am) at the Sullivan Senior Center on Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup> – rain or shine.
  - d. **Fundraising Calendar Update** – CAFTA & KB are working on the flyer and should have it out within a week or so to promote a Torrington only photo contest. You don't have to be from Torrington to enter but the photos must be of Torrington – celebrating the visual richness of Torrington – historically, naturally, culturally and otherwise. Keep an eye out for the posters. We are anticipating having the calendars available for purchase by the last Thursday Marketplace in August.
6. New Business:
  - a. **Interest on Open Space Fund** – KB noticed that interest was no accruing on the Open Space account but was being collected from all 'Wish Fund' accounts and dropped into the general fund. A discussion followed and GE will approach the Finance board regarding those funds and see if we can't have them added into our Open Space account.
  - b. **Torrington Trails Meetings Update** – The Trails group is going strong and has about 12-15 members that come very month. We had our first Field Meeting held April 21<sup>st</sup> at the Buttrick Road trail head. Fourteen people joined us on the hike up the mountain to see the trail. We took our time and stopped to discuss the trail, what work would be needed and how we could get the work done. Overall I think everyone left feeling like the creation of the Buttrick trail is definitely possible and rather easy considering its length and rise in elevation. Our next meeting

is Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at the City Hall Council Chambers (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) 140 Main Street. The representative from the National Park Service, John Monroe, will be there to see our plans and to assess the interest from our group. For the presentation I'll be doing most of the talking (again) but will have Bill Baxter from the Torrington Downtown Development Group there to discuss the downtown river walk and steps they are taking to make it a reality.

7. Staff Report:

- a. Open Discussion – LB brought a lot of information in on organic lawn care, pesticide use at public buildings and recycling. Everyone got copies of the articles. It was decided that KB would check with Dave Bascetta of the BOE to find out how much they use organic lawn care products. The group wanted to know also if the Economic Development Commission or Director was looking into encouraging restaurants to use locally grown produce since they do so much to support the farm markets with their Thursday Night Marketplace. KB will ask Rose. Also, LB was very interested in partnering again with NWCD to put on an organic lawn care seminar in Torrington – KB will ask.

8. Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned 7:04 pm Motion made by SW, 2<sup>nd</sup> by GE. Passed unanimously.

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

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