

**City of Torrington**  
**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
October 14, 2008

1. Call to Order: 6:08pm in Room 206A, 140 Main Street, Torrington, CT.
2. Roll Call & Announcements:
  - a. Roll Call: J. Friscia, C. Altman, M. Meyer, E. Patrick, K. Fitzgerald
3. Minutes for Approval:
  - a. 9/9/2008: Motion to approve minutes from last meeting made by M. Meyer. 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Altman. Vote: All.
4. Treasurer's Report:
  - a. Conservation Commission Account opening balance: \$961.81; closing balance \$761.81 due to a \$200 check paid to WriteWay Signs.
  - b. Open Space balance \$43,984.97, unchanged. Motion to accept report in its entirety made by C. Altman. 2<sup>nd</sup> by M. Meyer. Vote: All.
5. Old Business:
  - a. Open Space Plan. Awaiting tally of RFP responses, after which interviews will be scheduled.
  - b. America the Beautiful Grant Program – Urban Tree Poster: J. Friscia announced the receipt of a \$2,250 grant. Discussion followed regarding purposes for which the grant could be used.
  - c. CT Open Space Grant – Leoni Property Update. A decision on the Commission's grant application should be forthcoming by the end of October. Discussion followed regarding potential future plans should a grant be received.
  - d. Church Street Dam – Ed Fabbri Presentation: Held over until a future meeting.
  - e. River Signage Package Update – Signs have been completed and await installation. However, DOT will not let the signs be installed on state road rights-of-way. The Commission would like to contact our local legislators to see if reasonable exceptions can be made at key areas, such as the Main Street bridge.

Trout Unlimited will be able to provide \$500 this year towards the cost of the signs and \$200 in the next fiscal year. J. Friscia proposed an advance of \$200 be made from the Conservation Commission account to complete payment to WriteWay Signs with the expectation that TU will provide reimbursement in 2009. Motion to approve made by C. Altman. 2<sup>nd</sup> by E. Patrick. Vote: All.

6. New Business:
  - a. WinterGREEN Festival – Saturday, December 6. J. Friscia explained the utility of the Litchfield FreeCycle.org service that facilitates exchange of unwanted household items. The Commission has agreed to co-sponsor a proposed event at the Coe Park community center with the organization with booths for local “green” ware and a FreeCycle exchange area. Discussion ensued as to an admission charge; the tentative proposal is a nominal cash fee or donation of a nonperishable food item.
  
7. Staff Report/Discussion: Since Veterans Day is on Nov. 11, the Commission discussed moving the meeting to another day in that week. Motion to hold meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 12 made by E. Patrick. 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Altman. Vote: All.
  
9. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by C. Altman. 2<sup>nd</sup> by M. Meyer. Vote: All.

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Kevin J.F. Fitzgerald  
*Secretary, Conservation Commission*

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