



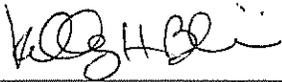
CITY OF TORRINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, August 16, 2012

1. Call to Order: 6:50pm, Land Use Office, Room 324, 140 Main Street, Torrington, CT.
2. Roll Call & Announcements:
 - a. Attending the meeting were commission members Tara Jo Holmberg, Diane Carroll, Stephen Michna and Butch Klug. Also in attendance was Kim Barbieri, staff.
3. Minutes for Approval:
 - a. 7/12/12: Motion to Approve Stephen Michna. Seconded by Diane Carroll. Vote passed unanimously.
4. Treasurer's Report:
 - a. The last published report still showed the open space account with \$51,920.12 and doesn't reflect the \$9,000 fee in lieu of open space check we received last month.
 - b. August expenditures will include:
 - \$410 for payment to Grian/Ivy Vine Players for organic food and water cycle puppet shows at the August 2 Thursday Night Marketplace
 - \$19,358.10 for the purchase of 3.3 acres of vacant property on Newfield Road at the August 11 tax auction.
5. Greenbrier Site Walk Review:
 - a. Stephen Michna reviewed last month's site walk and went over maps showing the open space land the Conservation Commission would be receiving within the Greenbrier subdivision as a settlement requirement with Army Corps. Questions were received regarding the organization and management of land we were receiving. It was determined that we would need to start organizing the land data we have and create a plan for marking and managing the land allowing for passive recreation if feasible and protecting the open space resources. This topic will be added to the September agenda to begin work on.
6. New Business:
 - a. Open Discussion
 - Tara Jo Holmberg asked about the booms that were in the Naugatuck River just above the confluence. Kim Barbieri explained they are required to manage an underground storage tank leak from the industrial property next door. Apparently there was a tank no one was aware of and it started leaking. The tank has been since drained. The folks at DEEP have been working closely with the City Engineering office to secure the spill. Plans are being prepared for the mitigation and cleaning of the site. Larentano Engineering has been secured to do the permitting for the required work.
 - Stephen Michna had general questions about community gardens in Torrington – if we had them, where they are etc. Kim Barbieri said her last contact with the Community Garden group was a few years ago but she would try and contact someone from the group to see if they could come in to speak with us about their program and goals to see if we could help in any way.

- Tara Jo Holmberg asked about the keeping of chickens in town. Our current regulations require a minimum of 3 acres to raise chickens. The local Fit Together group, of which Kim Barbieri is a member, has been interested in seeing if the City is interested in changing the regulations to allow or encourage ‘urban farming’ on a controlled small scale. Kim will be pursuing the subject in the fall after some other projects are completed and moved out of the way. Tara Jo said she would be happy to help with the project.
- Jacob-Strong House update: We received the grant monies for hiring historic preservation/archeological experts for the assessment of the Jacob Strong House. The RFP went out Wednesday.

7. Adjournment:

- a. Motion made by Stephen Michna. Seconded by Diane Carroll. Vote unanimously passed.



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

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