

Minutes

Coe Memorial Park Committee

May 21, 2014

Mission Statement: *To create within the downtown area of Torrington a first class horticultural oasis in accordance with and strict adherence to the Coe Godfrey benefactors and the Coe Family Trust.*

Attending: Chairman Marc Trivella, Mary Zbell, Dr Isadore Temkin, Mark McEachern, and Margaret Keywan

Also Attending: Frank Pennington, Susan Coe Holbrook, Superintendent Brett Simmons, Arborist Mike Zaharek

Absent: Lori Chiron and Jen Plasky

A Motion was made by Mary Zbell to accept the minutes of the April 16, 2014 meeting; seconded by Mark McEachern and passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments: Frank Pennington noted that the holiday light were finally removed on **April 17, 2014**

Park Operatons

- **Tree Work:** **Mike Zaharek** related the recent tree (3) removal of late and the plans for future tree planting (7" Gingko).
- The group ventured outside to view a diseased cherry tree the planned removal and the potential of another one to be removed at a later date. The planting of an additional tree(s) will take place when the tree(s) and Mike is available at the proper planting time.
- Mike announced that CL&P had finally removed the guide wire from the tree that bisected the Park. A few hours of trimming shall be done shortly.
- The beech tree seems to be holding its own but is due for another treatment.

A Motion by Mary Zbell to accept Mike's suggestion of planting another Elm was seconded by Mark McEachern and passed unanimously.

The Coe Memorial Park Committee thanked Mike for all of his diligent work in the Park.

Superintendent Brett Simmons reported the following:

- Still River Gardens: Spring cleanup and planting in progress. No reports
- Civic Center: general maintenance
- Park Grounds: Irrigation now on. General Maintenance
- House Carriage discussions in progress

Carriage House Mark McEachern related the Carriage house meeting was attended by Jerry Rollet, Patty Fairchild, Jim Pescatore, Brett Simmons and Mark McEachern. Discussions entailed the roof replacement, the first floor side doors, minor carpentry and painting. Superintendent Brett stated that \$75,000 had been budgeted this year for the renovations. Susan Coe Holbrook stated that there was approximately \$125,000 remaining from Phase II budget.

The Committee reviewed & discussed several color selections and decided upon three variations. Benjamin Moore Colors:

- Hancock Gray, Providence Olive, Abington Putty;
- Shelbourne Buff, Dunmore Cream, Philadelphia Cream;
- Jamesboro Gold, Northrup Putty, and Crown Point Sand.

It is claimed that the contract with Still River Gardens does not require a design plan and contents of the flower beds. If so, Dr. Temkin asked, how does the Trust then know what it is paying for? When purchasing an item at a store, does one not receive a bill or statement of purchase? Dr. Temkin restated his request for a written spec/design of the plantings in Coe Memorial Park, noting that in order to continue with the vision of the Park, we should know what we have and where it is located. Mary Zbell seconded his request and the request passed unanimously.

Permanent Motion: Margaret Keywan restated her Motion that the amount of \$11,680.67 be reimbursed to the Coe Godfrey Trust for the CL&P billing from 1997 through 2013. Per order of the Probate Court, the City was to obtain and provide information to the Committee, Commission and to the Court as to the billings for the 1997-2000 period, and have a summary total in time for the 2013/14 annual accounting. To date no information has been provided. Ms. Holbrook stated that she was able to obtain and provide the Trustee with copies of financial print outs for the above-referenced period. The total due is approximately the \$11,680.67 unless otherwise proven.

Permanent Motion: Margaret Keywan restated her Motion to seek reimbursement for the value of 11 Mity-Lite tables that were in the custody of the Park and Recreation Department. This was seconded by Mary Zbell and passed unanimously Margaret Keywan related that the ongoing saga of the 11 Mity-Lite tables still remains an issue that if not resolved at this level, the Probate Court will give its opinion after the settling of the CL&P Issue.

Regarding Permanent Motions: A Parliamentarian was contacted and it was determined that these permanent motions have been previously stated and restated in the minutes for over a year, as permanent valid motions. These motions are unnecessary and redundant according to consulting Parliamentarian as they have been in place for over a year as permanent motions. However, they will be stated again for the benefit of the Commission.

A Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m. was made by Margaret Keywan, seconded by Mary Zbell and passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be held at the Civic Center June 18, 2014 at 5p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Margaret K Keywan

Recording Secretary