



CITY OF TORRINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2022 Regular Meeting

1. Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm

Members present in person in Room 215 of Torrington City Hall unless otherwise noted.

Roll Call & Announcements: Members present: Tom Kalinowski, Steven Ivain, and Christine Altman.
Via ZOOM: Michael Kaneb
Members Absent: Dan McGuiness
Staff: Nate Nardi-Cyrus – Assistant City Planner
Members of the public: Tom Kandefer

2. Minutes:

a. August 11, 2022 Regular Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Tom Kalinowski, seconded by Steven Ivain. All members voted to approve the minutes.

3. New Business:

1. Besse Park Forest Harvest

Nate explained that he read the plan and took notes, as he was formally a certified forester in CT. Tom Kandefer also commented on how the harvest might affect the recreational trail redevelopment on the site. Nate has been in communication with the forester and Brett Simmons of Park and Rec to set up a site walk. Nate will continue to follow-up and share that date/time with the commission.

4. Old Business:

a. Continued discussion items:

1. Fall clean-up planning/prep

The group discussed the World Clean Up Day event, held September 17th. Turn-out was at an all-time low and Chris gave a brief history of past clean-up efforts and some potential reasons for the lack of participation. The group proposed outreach to the boy scouts, schools, chamber of commerce, and other service groups and businesses to get more attendance next year. It was suggested that the fall event could be 'virtual' and not require so much staff/volunteer time. It was agreed that Nate would share both large and small maps with the commission and the commission members would follow-up to inventory garbage

hotspots prior to the next Earth Day event. Given Tom Kandefers major role in filling the dumpster on site, Steve made a motion to nominate him for the Good Deed Award or other mayoral honor and Tom Kalinowski seconded. The vote was unanimous.

2. Food Forests

Nate reported that everything is ready go for the planting other than identifying volunteers to plant and maintain the bushes behind the pavilion at the Senior Center Gardens on Mountain Road. Chris and Mike volunteered to plant the shrubs one weekend in October or November and Mike will maintain those plantings over the coming years.

3. City open space parcel inventory and data collection


Mr. Nardi-Cyrus has started site inspections of city-owned conservation lands. The group scheduled a conservation commission site visit to Machuga Park and adjacent conservation land on Thursday 10/20/22 at 5pm. Tom Kandefers indicated that an adjacent 2-acre parcel was recently up for a tax auction, but no one bid on it. Nate will follow-up with the Assessor and City Planner on this. Alan Drapach, geography/planning student at CCSU, will be interning with Nate during the coming year to work on the Open Space Inventory and Natural Resource Inventory.

4. Conservation Commission website page edits and clean-up

No updates.

5. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.



10-24-22

Nate Nardi-Cyrus, Assistant City Planner
Staff to Conservation Commission

Cc: City Clerk, Mayor's Office