



CITY OF TORRINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2021 Regular Meeting

1. Call to Order: In response to the Governor's Executive Orders regarding COVID-19, this meeting is being held remotely using the ZOOM online meeting platform and is open for public viewing using the login information provided on the posted agenda.

Meeting called to order at 6:34 pm

2. Roll Call & Announcements: Members present: Christine Altman, Dan McGuinness, Tom Kalinowski and staff Jeremy Leifert

Members Absent: Robert DeMallie

Members of the public: None

3. Minutes:
 - a. January 21, 2021 Regular Meeting: **Motion to accept the minutes of the January 21, 2021 regular meeting as presented was made by D. McGuinness and seconded by C. Altman. Motion passed unanimously.**

4. New Business:

- a. Continued discussion of future projects and goals for 2021

J. Leifert briefly discussed items added to 2021 projects and goals from the previous meeting. The commission decided to concentrate on ideas from the January meeting, but to leave the discussion on the agenda for at least one more meeting in case anyone has any other ideas for the April meeting. It was agreed to leave the item on the agenda for one more month.

5. Old Business:

- a. Continued discussion of short term and long term projects and commission goals
 - J. Leifert went over resources that explained what food forests are, and provided web links to commission members to read further. Possible sources of funding for planning and development of food forest properties were discussed.
 - Further discussion took place on a future City Open space plan. The first steps in the plan are to complete the open space parcel inventory and identify sources of grant funding to hire a consultant to assist in development of the plan.
 - Discussion of the possible acquisition of the Leoni property on Winsted Road continued. City staff have recently resumed discussion and negotiation for the property, and discussions are ongoing.

b. Continued discussion/schedule for open space parcel inventory and data collection

J. Leifert stated that he is still putting together packets to send out to members to continue with the parcel inventory. With the pandemic still a concern, smaller properties have been identified that can be done by single members. The packets will be completed and sent out as soon as property owners surrounding the sites are notified staff/commissioners will be on the properties.

c. April 24, 2021 Earth Day Cleanup planning discussion

The commission held a brief discussion on planning for the scheduled Earth Day Cleanup to take place on Saturday, April 24, 2021. The decision was made to set up in Coe Park as with previous cleanup events, but set up food and gift certificates for takeout only to avoid a large gathering in the park. Staff has been in contact with local restaurants about gift card donations, and will finalize those in the next couple weeks. The commission discussed helping out staff in the park for an hour each. Planning will continue for final discussion at the next meeting.

6. Communications:

None

7. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn the meeting by D. McGuinness and seconded by T. Kalinowski. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned Altman at 7:14 pm



Jeremy Leifert, Asst. City Planner
Staff to Conservation Commission
Cc: City Clerk, Mayor's Office