



**CITY OF TORRINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2021 Regular Meeting**

1. Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 6:40 pm

Members present in person in Council Chambers of Torrington City Hall unless otherwise noted.

2. Roll Call & Announcements: Members present: Christine Altman, Tom Kalinowski, Dan McGuiness, Robert DeMallie (Via ZOOM) and staff Jeremy Leifert.

Members Absent: None

Members of the public: None

3. Minutes:

a. May 19, 2021 Special Meeting

Motion to accept the minutes of the May 19, 2021 special meeting as presented was made by T. Kalinowski and seconded by D. McGuiness. Motion passed unanimously.

4. New Business:

None

5. Old Business:

a. Continued discussion of short term and long term projects and commission goals

- The commission discussed a possible site walk date for Bowman Gardens, Mountain Road, for a potential food forest plot and possible other sites for food forests. A suggested site walk to combine a Bowman Gardens visit with an open space parcel review site walk at the University Drive town owned open space land was agreed by the commission for Saturday, July 17 at 9:00 to start at Bowman Gardens.
- R. DeMallie shared a conversation that he had with people for the UConn master gardeners program for possible volunteers and coordination on the food forest project. He also suggested reaching out to the northwest conservation district.
- J. Leifert stated that there is an agreement in place for the City to purchase the Leoni property on Winsted Road, but some issues with title, property cleanup, and old trolley line ownership had to be worked out before it could be finalized. Not much else could be discussed at the moment due to the pending land transaction.

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

J. Leifert shared a recap of open space parcels walks that were walked the previous morning along Cedar Lane and Colin Drive. He also discussed encroachment concerns with a property on Colin Drive as well as other open space parcels within the City.

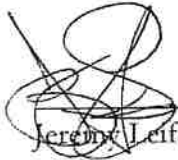
Discussions also took place on the future open space plan and costs associated with the plan for budgeting. C. Altman expressed concerns with a lack of a budget that the commission used to have. J. Leifert said he would discuss with the mayor about the budget issues along with funding for the open space plan.

6. Communications:

J. Leifert shared that due to changes to state statute, the Commission could hold hybrid meetings (both in person and with a ZOOM option) through next April.

7. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn the meeting by D. McGuinness and seconded by T. Kalinowski. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.



Jeremy Leifert, Asst. City Planner
Staff to Conservation Commission

Cc: City Clerk, Mayor's Office