

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M
AT THE YOUTH CENTER, CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT

Present: Jim Nankin, Chairman, Paul Fracasse, Dan Nowak, Mike O'Donnell,
Steve Trifone, Patrick Duffy and Karen Bertoni

Council Present: Peter Talbot

Staff Present: Bob Ceccolini
Kevin Simmons

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Nankin called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Commission Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING

MOTION: Mr. Fracasse made a motion to accept the November, 2016 minutes.

MOVED Mr. Nowak seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

COUNCIL LIAISON

Mr. Talbot informed the Commission he had nothing P&R related to discuss.

Mr. Ceccolini informed Mr. Talbot the Tobacco Free Parks is coming up Tuesday at the Town Council meeting and a public hearing has to be scheduled.

Mr. Talbot responded the public hearing would probably be around January 10, 2017 and would be on the agenda too. Mr. Talbot told Mr. Ceccolini to check on Friday, January 6, 2017 because that is when the agenda is created.

Mr. Ceccolini said the Sponsorship Policy is scheduled for next Tuesday and it is on the agenda already.

Mr. Nankin talked about the sponsorship signs briefly at the parks and that it was fought against for MacNamara especially.

Mr. Ceccolini said he is thinking more along the lines about concerts and score boards for the sponsorship and doesn't think that should be much of a problem.

Mr. Duffy arrived at 7:08 P.M.

There was a brief discussion regarding the tobacco free parks. Mr. Trifone was asked if he has a big problem with that at the high school with parents, etc. He said no, if he spots someone he tells them and they are really good about putting the cigarette/cigar out.

Mr. Ceccolini said there is a fine if they break an ordinance, the police are called and someone refuses to put their cigarette or device out.

Mr. Bertoni arrived at 7:12 P.M.

Mr. Ceccolini said he invited Kevin to the meeting tonight so everyone could say something to him and he can say his goodbyes. His last day of work is December 30, 2016.

Mr. Ceccolini said Kevin has been working for P&R for 37 years plus. Mr. Ceccolini said he has worked with Kevin for the last 23 years and mentioned that when Kevin is asked to do something, he drops whatever he is doing and does it. He said he is going to miss his positive attitude and the positive attitude the crew has from working with him.

Kevin said he has very few complaints over the last 37 years. He said working with Bob Ceccolini, he is the one that has the team spirit. It has been a pleasure working for him all these years. He said if he needed to make a decision and Bob wasn't around he would do what Bob has always told him and that is to do whatever makes the town look good. He thanked Bob for being a great boss.

The Commission and Council Liaison had their picture taken tonight with Kevin.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Communications

Mr. Nankin and Mr. Ceccolini had no communications to share tonight.

Pool Discussion

Mr. Ceccolini said income from the pool facility recently brought in more money than the pool's best year in 2010. He added the biggest months are coming.

Tobacco Free Parks

The Tobacco Free Parks was discussed under the Council Liaison section of the meeting.

Proposed 2017 Meeting Dates

None of the Commission members had any problems with the upcoming 2017 meeting dates.

MOTION: Ms. Bertoni made a motion to accept the 2017 meeting dates.

MOVED: Mr. O'Donnell seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Rec Person of the Year

Mr. Nankin and Mr. Ceccolini told the Commission to think of people for the award for next month's meeting.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

Mr. O'Donnell said there is nothing to report because this morning's meeting was cancelled.

Mr. Ceccolini told Mr. O'Donnell to let the Commission know the lights on Cook Hill are going to have to be replaced and would probably be flush lighting.

Mr. Duffy said that area is the Gateway to Cheshire.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Parks Update

Mr. Ceccolini said the new gazebo is up at the dog park.

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission the trail opened a couple of weeks ago and it was a nice day. He said the Commissioner of the DEEP, Mr. Reticker, wants to get the last piece of trail done within a year.

Mr. Ceccolini said P&R was asked to put a census machine on Jarvis to count people. He said it's a one- year grant and after that time the machine is ours to keep. It would keep track of day to day and hours. Mr. Ceccolini said he has the key to the box. The location would be the new part of the trail.

Mr. Trifone asked what P&R goals are for the data. Mr. Ceccolini replied to find out how many people use it when the state asks. It could aid us in applying for grants and we could say it is heavily used.

Recreation Update

Mr. Ceccolini said the winter brochures have been mailed and registration for winter is going on now. The basketball league for the HS is the largest and was named after George Welch.

Budget Update

Mr. Ceccolini said the budget process has begun and they are asking for another maintainer.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL

There isn't any Executive Session.

COMMISSIONER'S FORUM

Mr. Trifone wished everyone a Merry Christmas. He said the concession stand project is underway and they are saying the opening date would be the first week in April. The footings have been installed and the gas line was brought to the site.

Mr. Fracasse wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.

Mr. Nowak wished everyone Happy Holidays and wanted to know if P&R wanted to write a letter as a Commission for Kevin.

Mr. Talbot wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Mr. Duffy wished everyone Happy Hanukah, Merry Christmas and a healthy new year.

Mr. O'Donnell wished everyone Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukah. He thanked Karen Bertoni for all the treats she gave this year and tonight.

Ms. Bertoni wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Mr. Ceccolini thanked Karen Bertoni for all her treats. Mr. Ceccolini said he received the cost to do the plaques on the back of the benches. P&R would install it.

Mr. Nankin clarified it would be one plaque for one bench.

Mr. Ceccolini said there are six or seven empty benches and said we would talk about it next month. He said he is going to miss Kevin a lot; a great employee and friend. He wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Mr. Nankin wished everyone Happy Hanukah, Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanza, Festivas and Happy New Year.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Duffy made a motion to adjourn.

MOVED: Mr. Trifone seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion was passed unanimously by those present. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Attest:

Claudia J. Baron, Clerk
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