

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M  
AT THE YOUTH CENTER, CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT

Present: Jim Nankin, Chairman, Paul Fracasse, Dan Nowak, Patrick Duffy and  
Karen Bertoni

Absent: Steve Trifone and Mike O'Donnell

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Nankin called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Commission Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

**MINUTES OF THE JANUARY MEETING**

MOTION: Dr. Duffy made a motion to accept the January, 2017 minutes.

MOVED Mr. Nowak seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Mr. Nankin wanted the minutes and all future minutes to reflect that it should say Dr. Duffy not Mr. Duffy.

**COUNCIL LIAISON**

Mr. Talbot had a few things to discuss.

- The Council voted unanimously to approve the skating rink.
- The sponsorship program was voted on.
- The tobacco free parks had a hearing and we are now waiting for Mr. Ceccolini's presence at the meeting; then, it will be voted on. Mr. Talbot said the meeting should be on February 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Talbot noted there is nothing affecting P&R from the budget other than the skating rink.

Mr. Ceccolini said the skating rink was ordered. He said they need an approved vendor and it takes several weeks to put the rink together. The company recommends a Level 3 rink (homeowners get a Level 1).

Mr. Ceccolini said the Lions Club donated a bench for the linear trail and they would like to donate money for the rink. Maryellen and Dick Schena (their son was killed by a drunk driver) is donating the rest of the money for the rink so the rink is paid for. He said it is very inexpensive for the town and the town will own it.

Mr. Ceccolini said the rink should be delivered this Friday and they will try and assemble it next week. The only cost involved is the hiring of monitors. With the rink being here at the Youth Center on the basketball courts we would only need monitors on the weekends and some nights. Lights would go off at 9 PM at night and people can use the bathrooms at the Youth Center but have to take their skates off. Mr. Ceccolini said they need to construct a few little ramps and buy some benches; the setup will be nice. Hopefully, next week the weather will turn colder.

Mr. Nankin noted the money that was quoted of \$3,000 to \$3.500 going around to fill the rink is false.

Mr. Talbot notified the Commission that Jeff Faulk's younger brother passed away yesterday, his wake is Friday at Alderson and funeral is at St. Bridgett's on Saturday.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

### Communications

Mr. Ceccolini's communication was my letter of resignation to P&R and all other town boards and commissions from minute taking. My last meeting for P&R is June, 2017.

### Tobacco Free Parks

Mr. Talbot said the public hearing was held and three people were against it.

### Rec Person of the Year

The Recreation Person of the year was discussed by the Commission.

## **BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION**

Mr. O'Donnell is absent from the meeting.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### Parks Update

Mr. Ceccolini said the crew is doing the winter blitz now. The blitz is painting and touch-ups. They did the room we are in now. He said three guys have been plowing in every storm in the orange trucks. Brian Blair and Dave Rochford have been doing the sidewalks. They have been doing some work outside and snow removal. They also pull apart the tractors and mowers and get them ready for the spring.

Dave is temporarily taking Kevin's position.

### Recreation Update

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission the winter programs began and they are deep in with basketball.

Mr. Ceccolini said they bought a Gaga court. He described it as a boxing ring where the cyclone blower stays in to keep it inflated and the kids can play dodgeball inside the court. It's a dodgeball pit otherwise known as a Gaga pit. The money to buy this came from the Greg Schena foundation. He noted the Schena's are very generous. It is 25 feet across and the wall is four feet high.

### Budget Update

Mr. Ceccolini said the budget has been turned in. He said they did not ask for another person; however, they are asking for two part-time maintainers for ballfields, etc. He said he would need them by the end of March until the beginning of June then come back in September when the college kids leave.

Mr. Talbot questioned if it would be one person for the spring and one person for the fall? Mr. Ceccolini replied yes, 8-10 weeks in the spring for one and 8-10 weeks in the fall for the other. Mr. Talbot suggested it be worded as asking for one seasonal person.

## **COMMISSIONER'S FORUM**

Ms. Bertoni said it is nice to have Bob back.

Mr. Ceccolini thanked Karen for the goodies she made.

Ms. Bertoni suggested having an event at the skating rink, maybe a hot chocolate night or something like that.

Mr. Ceccolini said the tree lighting event had a hot chocolate and cookies night. Everything went fast. The Jr. Women's Club had that event and said it is a very good idea.

Dr. Duffy thanked Karen for the food and it was good to see Bob here tonight. Hopefully it will get cold enough to use the rink.

Mr. Fracasse wished everyone a happy February.

Mr. Nowak thanked Karen and said he's glad Bob is feeling better. He asked what the impact of the water is with the tension membrane on the pool.

Mr. Ceccolini replied there is a defect in the heating unit at the facility (they are aware of) and are trying to fix it when water drops and freezes.

Mr. Nowak said compared to the bubble it has to be better.

Mr. Ceccolini responded yes. He said there are a lot of positive comments from people out of town. The downfall is the seating, there is not enough room for people at meets.

Mr. Nankin said he is glad Bob is back. He also thanked me for all my years of service to P&R and said I would be missed.

I thanked Mr. Nankin and said that was very nice to say. I will miss them all also.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Dr. Duffy made a motion to adjourn.

**MOVED:** Mr. Nowak seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** The motion was passed unanimously by those present. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Attest:

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Claudia J. Baron, Clerk  
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