

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

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

Staff Present: Bob Ceccolini, Director
Sandy Patela, Deputy Director

Absent: Dan Nowak and Karen Bertoni

Council Present: Peter Talbot, Liaison

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 FEBRUARY MEETING

MOTION: Dr. Duffy made a motion to accept the February minutes.

MOVED Mr. Fracasse seconded the motion.

Mr. O'Donnell had a change on page 3, he wanted it noted that Dave West is covering Kevin's position not Dave as it is in the minutes.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present with the added change.

COUNCIL LIAISON

Mr. Talbot informed the Commission the tobacco free parks were not discussed at the February Town Council meeting. He noted people anticipated at the February meeting it would pass but there were a limited number of Council members present so it would be discussed in the March meeting.

Mr. Nankin said other towns have the tobacco free parks and he was quite surprised and disappointed it didn't get voted on.

Mr. Ceccolini told Mr. Talbot he cannot attend the March 10th meeting.

The Commission talked about waivers and exceptions to the rules. Mr. Nankin suggested having the Chairman make the exceptions if there are any.

Mr. Talbot said the start of the budget is coming up this month and naming of the facilities is coming up under the Chairman's Report tonight.

Mr. Nankin asked if there are big changes in the budget and Mr. Talbot responded the budget in general, yes. He added there was a hearing at the end of January concerning the wastewater plant and the Attorney General Department of Corrections was discussed. He said the town is looking for back billing and waiting again.

Mr. O'Donnell asked if there is any word on the charter revision for P&R and Mr. Talbot replied no.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Communications

There are no communications to discuss this month.

Tobacco Free Parks

Tobacco Free parks was talked about briefly in the Council Liaison's report.

Naming of Facilities

There was a brief discussion regarding the naming of facilities among the Commission members.

MOTION: Mr. Nankin made a motion to TABLE this topic until we know about the budget, schools, etc.

MOVED: Mr. O'Donnell seconded the motion.

This will be put back on the agenda after July until we have a better direction.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

Mr. O'Donnell asked Mr. Ceccolini if anything has been done regarding the lighting at the parklet.

Mr. Ceccolini replied the south end needs to be changed out.

Mr. O'Donnell said the Commission is willing to talk to Michael Milone and help you with the cost. Mr. Ceccolini responded and said the cost is \$1,600.

Mr. Ceccolini referred to the lighting in the center of town at the parklet at St. Peter's church; they all burned out. He said he has to look into this.

Mr. O'Donnell discussed the planting of the trees from the ball fields to the Chapman Property. We are looking for low-maintenance trees like Anopa.

Mr. Ceccolini said there is an old hedge along Cheshire Park he wants to get rid of and plant something new. Mr. O'Donnell suggested maybe a few more trees along there through the Suburban Garden Club.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Parks Update

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission the weather hasn't been good for a skating rink. The rink is in plastic wrap in the garage on pallets. He noted this has never been done before.

Mr. Ceccolini told the Commission the guys are doing the winter blitz. They are painting at the basement of the library and painting here at the Youth Center. He added if the weather stays like this they will do the fields.

Recreation Update

Mr. Ceccolini said the winter programs are almost done and spring will be starting soon.

Ms. Patela said the spring brochure is online. March 13 registration begins for programs and April 3rd a new tennis program would be added.

Ms. Patela said on March 9 there would be a united fitness event which includes yoga, biking and walking. Also, Barbara Costello is their therapeutic recreation coordinator and she has a

program for Special Olympics on April 4 regarding pedaling. She does other activities for P&R also.

Budget Update

Mr. Ceccolini said the budget has to be submitted to the Town Council by next Friday. He added things are tight and Kevin Simmons job is not filled. Dave West is acting as a crew leader and the budget goes in as a status quo. Mr. Ceccolini said he did not ask for another person this year.

Mr. Ceccolini referred to the capital budget and said it would start to get submitted in June and be given to the Town Council by August.

Mr. Ceccolini said P&R does have the money to do the basketball courts and they would be done this year, MacNamara would be first. He said if they can get to that court it would be shut down in April and people could play on it in May. There are three courts to do.

Mr. O'Donnell asked about the warranty for the basketball court when the ice rink is on it. Mr. Ceccolini replied it would be a three-year warranty, if the ice rink is on there and there are damages then the warranty would be void for the top of the court.

MOTION: Mr. Nankin made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 8:00 P.M.

MOVED: Mr. Trifone seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

MOTION: Mr. Nankin made a motion to end Executive Session at 8:30 P.M.

MOVED: Mr. O'Donnell seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motions passed unanimously by those present.

COMMISSIONER'S FORUM

Mr. Duffy told Mr. Trifone he is sorry for his loss.

Mr. Trifone thanked everyone for their kind words.

Mr. Fracasse told Mr. Trifone he's sorry about his mom.

Mr. O'Donnell sent his condolences to Mr. Trifone and a happy birthday to Mr. Fracasse.

Mr. Nankin sent our condolences as a Commission to Mr. Trifone for his loss. He said it is a difficult process to go through and to call us if he needs us. A happy birthday to Mr. Fracasse.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. O'Donnell made a motion to adjourn.

MOVED: Mr. Trifone seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion was passed unanimously by those present. The meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Attest:

Claudia J. Baron, Clerk
P&RMar1.doc