

**MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2019 AT 7:00 P.M. AT
THE CHESHIRE COMMUNITY POOL, 520 SOUTH MAIN STREET,
CHESHIRE, CT 06410**

Present: Chairman Patrick Duffy, Paul Fracasse, Dan Nowak,
Michael O'Donnell, Robert Parr, Steve Trifone
Mark Cunningham, Highway Superintendent

Absent: Robert Parr, Council Liaison, Peter Talbot

Staff: John Gawlak, Director

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairman Duffy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Clerk called the roll and determined a quorum was present.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The group pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

4. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES, SEPTEMBER 4, 2019

MOTION by Mr. S. Trifone, seconded by Mr. D. Nowak

MOVED to approve and accept the minutes of October 2, 2019

VOTE The motion passed unanimously

5. PARKS UPDATE

Mr. Cunningham reported that the winterizing is ongoing. The linear trail will be done this Friday, weather permitting. Mr. Gawlak reported that the Lacrosse Tournament was moved out of town. Mr. Cunningham stated the water in the parks will be shutoff this week. Mr. O'Donnell inquired about Lock 12. Mr. Cunningham responded that there will be fencing installed and in the spring there will be grass planted and picnic tables set up. There was discussion regarding doing something similar at Cheshire Park.

6. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Talbot was not in attendance; there was nothing to report.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

None

8. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman informed the members that the Council Liaison was re-elected.

9. OLD BUSINESS

a. Chapman Property Master Plan

Mr. Gawlak reported that there were two meetings held at the Library. The meetings were well attended and there were some good ideas presented by the public. There will also be a meeting of the stakeholders for the abutters of Bartlem Park and Chapman Farm. Letters will be sent out to abutters on November 7. This meeting will be held November 14 at 6:30 at the Library.

There will be a meeting of the Steering Committee the first week of December; this will be a predesign workshop meeting with the architects, to discuss the underutilization of the town fields. This meeting will also explore what fields we have, what we are lacking and what we have too much of that can potentially be used in some other way.

b. FY19-20 Budget

Mr. Gawlak indicated that he is reviewing the budget to look at the staffing and possibly have the Program Coordinator position become a full time position.

Mr. Gawlak is considering changing the fee structure for field's rental to nonresidents and condensing the rental forms from 3 pages to one. There was discussion about requiring a deposit for field use or adding a 10% additional charge in order to cover clean-up costs, restroom cleaning, etc.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Gawlak discussed the request from the Trail of Hope Committee to name a section of town, from Cornwall to West Main, "Cheshire Light of Hope".

The committee did the required paperwork and attended a Council meeting and a council subcommittee and naming committee meeting. They received their approval from those committees. The Trail of Hope will be on the agenda for the upcoming Town Council meeting and the Council would like this commission's feedback before they make a decision.

MOTION by Mr. O'Donnell , seconded by Mr. Duffy

MOVED to accept the naming of a section of town from Cornwall to

West Main to "Cheshire Trail of Hope"

VOTE The motion passed unanimously

MOTION by Mr. Nowak, seconded by Ms. Bertoni

MOVED to request that going forward the Planning Committee

communicate with Park & Rec before naming a town park or section

VOTE The motion passed unanimously

Mr. Gawlak informed the Commission that a letter was sent to residents abutting the pool regarding the noisy fans and what is being done. (See letter attached).

11. DIRECTOR'S DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Gawlak presented his report.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. O'Donnell, seconded by Ms. Bertoni

MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present

Respectfully submitted,



Angela Izzo