

**MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2019 AT 7:00 P.M. AT
THE YOUTH CENTER, 559 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE, CT 06410**

Present: Chairman Patrick Duffy, Karen Bertoni, Paul Fracasse,
Michael O'Donnell, Robert Parr

Council Liaison, Peter Talbot

Mark Cunningham, Highway Superintendent

Absent: Dan Nowak, Steve Trifone

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

Mr. Gawlak informed the Commission that Mr. Heiple, a town resident and retired Engineer, provided a copy of his dissertation, done in 1987, on the Farmington Canal. The document was circulated among the members and will part of the archives.

4. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES, NOVEMBER 6, 2019

Mr. Duffy stated that Ms. Bertoni in attendance at the November 6, meeting but was not listed as present in the minutes.

MOTION by Mr. M. O'Donnell, seconded by Mr. P. Fracasse

MOVED to approve and accept the minutes of November 6, 2019, with corrections

VOTE The motion passed unanimously

5. PARKS UPDATE

Mr. Gawlak stated that the bids will be going out this month for the basketball courts at MacNamara, Youth Center and Cheshire Park, as well and the Cheshire Park tennis courts and pickle ball courts.

The Bartlem Park playground fence was completed.

Mr. Gawlak stated that he has met with a playground consultant to compare improvement plans for the playground equipment and surfacing.

Public Works will be doing the wood fiber mulch in the spring.

The Bartlett Concession stand – there was a discussion regarding the future use of this concession stand, ways to update and it and to replace old equipment, and how to generate funds from its use.

Mr. Gawlak discussed the condition of the Skateboard Park and distributed to the members a proposal from American Ramp Company to upgrade it.

Mr. Gawlak presented the final design and cost for the Master Plan for improvements at the Kiddie Pool.

Mr. Cunningham stated that his staff is continuing the fall seeding and fertilizing.

Mr. Gawlak stated that Kloter Farms will be installing the shed at the Pool. The capital park and improvement plan is being prepared.

6. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Talbot stated the Council this year will be doing the Operating and Capital budget at the same time. He will also continue to be the Liaison for this Commission for another two years.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

None

8. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Duffy commented the energy of this group. He suggested that each member take a park and keep the Commission updated on it. Mixwille would have two members due to its size.

Mr. Talbot suggested coming up with a list of the parks.

There was discussion on user fees and how to generate more funds.

Mr. Gawlak told the members that he will mail out a fee schedule proposal for their review.

There was discussion of forming a subcommittee to address the fees and then present the fee proposal to the Town Council.

9. OLD BUSINESS

a. Chapman Property Master Plan

There will be a meeting of the Steering Committee on December 5.

The Commission will review the results during the January 2020 meeting.

b. FY19-20 Budget

Budget prep will begin this month.

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Proposed 2020 Meeting Dates

There was discussion regarding changing the date of the July meeting.

MOTION by Ms. Bertoni, seconded by Mr. Fracasse

MOVED to change the July 2020 meeting from July 1 to July 8

VOTE The motion passed unanimously

11. DIRECTOR'S DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Gawlak presented his report.

12. ADJOURNMENT

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

MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present

Respectfully submitted,



Angela Izzo