

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 2012 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE COMMUNITY  
POOL, CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT

Present: Jim Nankin, Chairman, Mike O'Donnell, Ira Kushner, Patrick Duffy, David Veleber and Paul Fracasse

Staff Present: Bob Ceccolini, Sheila Adams

Council Liaison: Peter Talbot

Absent: Karen Bertoni

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Commission Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

**MINUTES OF THE APRIL 4, 2012 MEETING**

MOTION: Mr. Duffy made a motion to accept the April 4, 2012 minutes.

MOVED: Mr. Veleber seconded the motion.

The following changes were noted:

Mr. O'Donnell had a change on Page 3. The minutes reflect that he is the P&R liaison for The Building Commission, which is incorrect. The minutes should read that he is the P&R liaison for The Dehumidification Sub Committee.

Mr. Kushner also had a correction on the last page under Forum. The \$7,000 came from the Friends of Softball.

MOTION: Mr. O'Donnell made a motion to accept the April 4, 2012 minutes as corrected.

MOVED: Mr. Veleber seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

## COUNCIL LIASION

No report was given.

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

### Communications

Mr. Nankin said he received a couple of phone calls regarding the appearance at Bartlem Park. He said he then referred the callers to Mr. Ceccolini. Mr. Nankin explained that there are five park guys who have to get all ball fields and playing fields ready takes up all of their time. There is no time to do any weeding, etc. Only so much can be done. The park is full tonight, parking is tough. Mr. Nankin said the guys will tend to the areas where the kids play.

Mr. Ceccolini said Quinnipiac, McNamara and Cheshire Park are very busy tonight also. He said the few comments were regarding curb appeal.

Mr. Nankin said on another note that he was informed that the parklets all look beautiful.

Mr. Duffy questioned whether prisoners could be used for this type of work? Mr. Ceccolini replied prisoners would not work out for us because they have to be watched carefully and his staff isn't comfortable.

Mr. Ceccolini said he has a request for a planting of a tree for McNamara Park. The letter is from two sisters and one of the husband's. The two sisters are requesting a tree be planted in honor of their aunt and uncle's 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. They live nearby to McNamara Park.

Mr. Duffy questioned the type of tree and the cost? Mr. Ceccolini said it can be any type of tree that P&R wants to put in and the cost is \$300 for the tree and plaque. He said he often refers people to this option if they don't want to purchase a bench. The aunt and uncle are Dino and Nari Dastur.

**MOTION:** Mr. O'Donnell made a motion to accept and plant a tree at McNamara in the honor of Dino and Nari Dastur for their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary from their family.

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

**VOTE:** All were in favor. The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Pool Discussion

Mr. Nankin informed the Commission the position of the Pool Maintainer that they requested has been turned down by the Council. We did not get the Maintainer as we had hoped.

Sheila Adams was present at the meeting to inform the Commission members of some figures she wanted to share. She said compared to 2010, there are 420 new members that have joined. 2011 is not being considered since the pool was closed for awhile. She said there were only 52 new members in 2010 so this area has grown nicely. There have been over 800 people that have visited the pool in the last two months. Ms. Adams said the day passes are down in numbers but believes it is because of the new member passes numbers. Swim lessons are very big and with six instructors teaching there is still a waiting list of approximately 45 people waiting for lessons.

Ms. Adams said she has heard from several people that they love the facility and there have been no negative comments.

Ms. Adams said regarding the dehumidification, Arizon has sent back the information we needed without the cost information. They are trying to reconfigure the blower we have. She added on dry days the facility is at 50 percent humidity but every day we are open it has to be 60 percent or less if we recycle air according to the state statute.

Mr. Ceccolini said there are still avenues the town is searching for in regards to the humidity levels.

Mr. Duffy questioned what was replaced in front of us? Mr. Ceccolini said the company replaced the plate on the pool deck but not the whole pier.

Mr. O'Donnell said he would like everything in place by September.

Mr. Veleber questioned if we would lose the energy conservation? Mr. O'Donnell replied the heat exchanger will grab 70 percent of the heat and use it but we are still losing 30 percent that will go out the exhaust.

Mr. Ceccolini said FEMA was here last week and the town would be reimbursed 75 percent of the cost of a new blower.

Mr. Nankin noted the hardest type of claim to adjust is the loss of income.

Mr. O'Donnell questioned Ms. Adams and asked how the new equipment is doing for checking the humidity? Ms. Adams responded that she doesn't know the readings. The company picked up the equipment yesterday. Ms. Adams said the bubble would be coming down in three weeks.

Mr. Ceccolini questioned the noise level in the facility? Ms. Adams replied the new bubble is much quieter and there have been no air quality complaints.

## **DOG PARK**

Mr. Ceccolini said the group contacted a fence company to get a few designs. There is some progress but it is still months away.

## **BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION**

Mr. O'Donnell informed the Commission that the Beautification Commission plans to have legacy trees be bought for people on town property.

Mr. Ceccolini responded it is just like what P&R does by installing the memorial benches at people's requests throughout the town. He said the Boy Scouts planted four trees at Quinnipiac last week.

Mr. Veleber questioned how many available spots in town are there for the trees? Mr. O'Donnell said we lost alot of trees in the October storm. Mr. O'Donnell thought it may be a good idea to publicize the idea of the trees. Mr. Ceccolini thought this was a good idea.

Mr. O'Donnell said they talked about the island of refuge on West Main Street at their meeting and it should be finished by September. The island is 30-40 feet long.

Mr. Fracasse said Phase II is out to bid for West Main Street as he has heard.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### Park Status

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission that the fields are in good shape and the leagues have begun. The summer crew is joining us in about a week. The Eagle Scout project is for a new flag in front of the pool. The changing rooms at Mixville Park are done. An entry sign at Roaring Brook has been finished too.

### Recreation Programs

Mr. Ceccolini said on-line registrations are starting up. He said he is hoping the pool sign will come in July.

Mr. Ceccolini referred to the flash protest that was listed in the newspaper. He explained because of the asbestos the summer theater was cancelled this summer and some parents are not happy with this news and plan on protesting. A letter was sent to parents in February regarding this situation. The protest will be on May 18 at Cheshire Park.

Mr. Ceccolini passed around the pamphlets for the CYT Radio Show and the CYT Summer Musical Theater Camp. He said there has been a good response for the theater camps. If there is an asbestos problem next year we are going to see if they can push the repairs until after July. Lights and sound are expensive for outside, the plays work better and are more costs effective when they are inside.

#### Mixville Hills Land Management Plan

Mr. Veleber questioned where the access to Mixville Hills is from? Mr. Nankin replied off of Route 70.

Mr. O'Donnell said he believes the plan is fine but the issue is the access.

Mr. Ceccolini said if the Land Management Plan gets approved the engineers would probably come in to tell us what is needed like a parking lot, etc.

There was a brief discussion regarding the plan pertaining to last month's meeting and some general questions regarding the plan.

**MOTION:** Mr. O'Donnell made a motion to accept the plan as written with the noted concerns by the Commission for safe access to the property.

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

**VOTE:** The motion passed unanimously by those present.

#### **COMMISSIONER'S FORUM**

Mr. O'Donnell questioned if the Mixville dredging is on schedule?

Mr. Ceccolini said instead of changing the water flow, they are going to do hydro-dredging by using plastic bags. They hope to have this completed by late summer, early fall.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

**VOTE:** The motion was passed unanimously by those present. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

Attest:

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Claudia J. Baron, Clerk  
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