

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 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 Karen Bertoni

Staff Present: Bob Ceccolini, Sheila Adams

Council Liaison: Peter Talbot

Absent: Paul Fracasse

**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 MAY 2, 2012 MEETING**

MOTION: Mr. Veleber made a motion to accept the May 2, 2012 minutes.

MOVED: Mr. Duffy seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

**COUNCIL LIASION**

Mr. Talbot said the pool fees have been approved. He said the only discussion was about the property on I-84 (Mixville Hills) but no action was taken.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Mr. Nankin told the Commission that Mr. O'Donnell attended the dehumidification meeting at 6:00 P.M. tonight.

Pool Discussion

Ms. Adams said the first option for the pool would be another referendum and probably wouldn't be approved. The second option would be closing the pool later, mid-October and opening May 1<sup>st</sup>. This option cuts into lessons and programs by closing early and opening early.

Mr. O'Donnell said they are focusing back to the original system we had, no recoup of heat. That option would take 10,000 cubic feet of air out and bring it in and heat it. The air would go into a mixer that would clean the air at 30 -40 percent then heat the air you are exhausting. This option would cost approximately \$300,000. Ms. Adams said all prices are from Arizon. Mr. O'Donnell said they are starting to look at the C1 option (the one that cost \$300,000) and trying to figure out what days are the shouldering months. They need to know what days are the low humidity months, like April and October.

Mr. Nankin said we are running out of time. Mr. O'Donnell said it could work if we have a solid plan and we get an extension on the waiver

Ms. Adams said we have to reopen in the fall.

Mr. O'Donnell said we can't go back to the air system we used to have.

Mr. Nankin asked Peter Talbot if he could communicate this back to the Council. Mr. Talbot replied yes, he would.

Mr. Nankin said this all needs to be discussed with Michael Milone and the Council first.

Mr. Nankin said our numbers are growing, our income is growing and there are a lot of new members. Ms. Adams said there are over 450 new members since we opened the facility. The numbers are huge.

Mr. O'Donnell said the C1 option (\$300,000) would keep the facility as it is now. If energy goes up, it will be negative. This option is under the number that would require a referendum. The Commission is looking into a heat cover for the pool if we open in April and October.

Ms. Adams noted the more expensive option is off the table.

Ms. Bertoni questioned if we could raise the difference? Mr. Nankin replied if the cost is \$350,000 or greater.

Mr. Ceccolini suggested we ask the Building Department to put in up in September and close in May by obtaining a waiver? We should have two to three weeks where we have to operate the facility this way.

The options were again discussed among Commission members.

Mr. O'Donnell said staying under the \$300,000 is our best option.

Mr. Nankin noted the newer equipment we have is more efficient than what we had before. Mr. Nankin said the negative is that we have to close earlier or open earlier if the Building Department doesn't approve it.

Mr. O'Donnell said they use the historical data for the weather to find out what date they will use to open and close the pool. Decisions will be made from our subcommittee to the Building Commission to the Town Council for final decision.

Ms. Bertoni questioned what would happen if the cost goes up from Arizon? What if it does go over the \$300,000? Mr. Nankin responded then we have a problem. It has to stay below the referendum amount.

Mr. Veleber questioned if we do not get the waiver then we have to go through the closing issues? Mr. Nankin responded that we don't have a choice.

Mr. Ceccolini informed everyone it is in the hands of the town attorney.

There was a brief discussion regarding insurance companies, codes, responsibility, etc.

Mr. Duffy asked if there are two steps the blower and the blankets or, are they one issue. Mr. Nankin responded they are two different issues, we don't own either of them now.

Mr. Kushner said he just looked at BL and Companies report regarding the concept price and that is not final and to remember that.

Mr. O'Donnell responded the price includes the installation.

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission when the bubble came down there was a series of D rings that popped off and created holes in the tarp, 30 in all, which have been repaired. He said our contractor wasn't convinced the tarp was the tarp that should be there at our facility. The cables were sent to us from Arizon.

Ms. Adams added the ropes hit each D ring.

Mr. Ceccolini said all the ropes were tied off. The cover had a 30-foot tear in it after the D rings popped. We had a slight breeze as this took place. The bubble and tarp were sent back for repair and they have to make us a new tarp.

Ms. Adams said the company will ship it for us in September if that's when we need it.

Mr. Ceccolini said the town is still negotiating with the insurance company over the lost revenue. FEMA came in and said they would pay 75% of the blower.

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission there is a group trying to form called Friends of the Pool. There are people supporting the pool but this group cannot be a Commission. Contact Patti Flynn-Harris or Sheila Adams if you know of anyone who wants to join this group.

Mr. Ceccolini said the town is trying to give the outdoor volleyball court in sand that Sheila has requested.

Mr. Ceccolini said boxes have been placed over the connections for the support cables that will house flowers because people have been tripping over the connections.

Ms. Adams informed the Commission that June 20, 21, and 22 are dollar days at the pool.

Mr. Ceccolini said the pool survey is on the town website.

Ms. Adams said you could win two private swim lessons with her or a family day pass by filling out the survey and being chosen. It is in the brochure, at the pool, and would like to publish it in the Patch with a link.

### Communications

Mr. Nankin said he has been hearing of several complaints asking why the fields aren't done, why there are weeds and why isn't something else done? He said we have our summer guys, five guys. One guy at Mixville is a lot for one person. If Commission members hear of complaints and feel the conversation should go further, please don't get in an argument. Refer the person or persons to Bob or Jim.

### **DOG PARK**

Ms. Bertoni said she talked to Cindy and she suggested that we do a Dog-A-Thon walk and one other event to raise money.

Mr. Ceccolini said the dog park group is in the money raising mode.

### **BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION**

Mr. O'Donnell said everything is in bloom and looking nice. The barrels were replaced with summer flowers in the barrels.

Mr. O'Donnell questioned what happened to plaques when the original playground at Bartlem was replaced with the newer equipment? Some people are asking about the plaques.

Mr. Ceccolini said he has the plaques. He said we may put them at the base of some of the trees because we can't do the concept designed by MMI. Mr. Ceccolini said if they don't go at the base of the trees, P&R will make an area for them.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### Park Status

Mr. Ceccolini said all flowers are planted. The front of the gazebo was trimmed out at Bartlem. The playground had a problem with patches dug up and the merry-go-round had the center piece shatter.

The Mixville lot is being redone with the millings and covering the lot. The Eagle Scouts performed three projects: the flag pole, Skate Park and Cheshire Park.

The Keith Gale benches were approved by the town.

### Recreation Programs

Mr. Ceccolini said the recreation programs are in the brochure and handed that out to Commission members.

### Capital Budget

Mr. Ceccolini said the linear trail is going in. In 2012 that is the first part of the request for the trail. Two years from that another part of the request for the trail would be made. Another two years after that the final part of the request for the trail would be added to those years in the capital budget.

Mr. Ceccolini said he asked for more money to redo the playgrounds at Quinnipiac, Cheshire Park, and McNamara. That is out two years. The tennis court request to redo it is out three years in the budget.

Mr. Ceccolini said he has requested three rider mower replacements. The equipment dates back to 1985. He said after 20 years they need to be replaced.

The shed at Bartlem Park was in the capital budget from two years ago. The roof is being installed now.

The dredging at Mixville is pending at this time.

### **COMMISSIONER'S FORUM**

Ms. Bertoni thanked Ms. Adams for all her hard hours at the facility and all that she does.

Mr. Kushner said the P&R came out and did a great job on a recent event he was involved in. Mr. Kushner referred to the linear trail and said the cracks have been sealed. Our trail is in better shape than Hamden.

Mr. O'Donnell said P&R did a nice job on their float for the parade. The parade turned out well.

Mr. Ceccolini said the Cheshire Community Band concert will be July 3<sup>rd</sup> on the town green. It is from 7 to 8:30 P.M. He asked the Commission to keep in mind about finding sponsors for the upcoming concerts.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

**MOVED:** Ms. Bertoni seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** The motion was passed unanimously by those present. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

Attest:

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Claudia J. Baron, Clerk  
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