

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2012 AT 7:00 P.M. AT YOUTH
CENTER, CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT

(Previous meeting on November 7, 2012 was cancelled due to storm)

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

Staff Present: Bob Ceccolini

Council Present: Peter Talbot

Absent: Dave Veleber

CALL TO ORDER

Jim Nankin, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Commission Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 3, 2012 MEETING

MOTION: Mr. O'Donnell made a motion to accept the October 3, 2012 minutes as written.

MOVED: Mr. Kushner seconded the motion.

VOTE: The vote passed 5 to 1 by those present. There was one abstention, Mr. Nankin.
He was absent for last month's meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Communications

Mr. Nankin said he had no communications to share.

Mixville Park

Mr. Nankin spoke to the Commission regarding the recent clearing at Mixville Park. He said there were mistakes made; a permit should have been pulled to clear the brush. He wished it was

handled differently. He wished it was not printed in the paper but handled between Department Heads, communication with Bob Ceccolini instead.

Ms. Bertoni arrived at 7:15 P.M.

The Commission discussed the clearing and reviewed the report Mr. Ceccolini provided. The report is a pictorial and maintenance history for Mixville Park. The report is dated November 1, 2012 and the oldest photo in the report for the pictorial is dated back to 1982.

Mr. Ceccolini said in the future permits will be pulled before any clearing at the park.

There was a discussion about the Eagle Scout crossing. Mr. Ceccolini said that would be rectified in accordance with the Inland Wetlands ruling. Work has already started in rectifying the situation.

Mr. Ceccolini said a representative from MMI (Milone & MacBroom, Inc.) visited Mixville Park with him and a staff member from the Inland Wetlands Commission. He said some plantings may have to occur but growth that was cut will come back very quickly.

2013 Meeting Dates

Mr. Nankin said he has a conflict with the September 4, 2013 meeting date and would like it moved to September 11, 2013 because of Rosh Hashanah.

MOTION: Mr. Duffy made a motion to change the P&R meeting date from September 4, 2013 to September 11, 2013 for people that observe Rosh Hashanah.

MOVED: Ms. Bertoni seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Ms. Bertoni suggested changing the July 3, 2013 meeting to July 10, 2013 due to the 4th of July holiday.

MOTION: Ms. Bertoni made a motion to change the July 3, 2013 meeting to July 10, 2013.

MOVED: Mr. O'Donnell seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

DOG PARK

Mr. Ceccolini said the group is actively doing fund raisers and they are working on the idea of people purchasing bricks as was discussed at a previous meeting. The group hopes to have funds for next year. Volunteers are putting together a sign for the group to install where the park is going to be.

Mr. Nankin said he's aware that Ansonia and Madison and other towns are now doing dog parks also but Cheshire hasn't started yet. He said he went to the ribbon cutting for the linear park 19 years ago. He commented Cheshire will be one of the last town's to finish the linear park.

Mr. O'Donnell commented that Dalton slowed down our process of completing it earlier.

Ms. Bertoni switched back to the dog park and said could P&R do anything to get the dog park moving along?

Mr. Ceccolini said the dog park group was told by the Council once they raise the money to go back and see the Council.

Mr. O'Donnell said the money being raised hasn't slowed the development of the park down because not all of the money has not been raised yet. He said it also hurts not to have the sign up for the future home of the dog park so people can continually see the sign as they drive by. The group has lost its momentum.

Mr. O'Donnell suggested installing a dog bone sign out to show how much money was raised so far and how much is still needed.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

Mr. O'Donnell said he has nothing to report because he missed the meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Pool

Mr. Ceccolini said the facility has been through two major weather events recently. We have never gone through a hurricane with the bubble up. He explained some of the things that were done to prepare for the storm: doorways were sealed; duct taped; pumped up the pressure inside the facility in the bubble; and turned up the heat. The day of the hurricane we had a brown out for about 10 seconds then the power came back on. He said the regular blower was on. Mr. Ceccolini said they pumped up the pressure and put the heat on for the Nor'easter.

Mr. Nankin questioned if the snow fell off the bubble easier than when they had problems in 2010? Mr. Ceccolini replied yes but with the last storm lots of snow came down really fast at once that is why we lost the bubble last time.

Mr. Ceccolini said the heating and plumbing come to the facility daily and other people come two times a week.

Mr. Ceccolini said Ms. Adams has been acting as a maintenance person besides doing her own job. He said we are asking for a maintenance person again next year.

Mr. Nankin asked if there are any recent problems that he doesn't know about. Mr. Ceccolini said no, only that its only 79 degrees instead of 82 degrees under the bubble. Arizon will be coming out to solve the problem.

Mr. Duffy raised a concern that people have been approaching him on. How do people with wheel chairs or strollers get into the facility because of the circular doors?

Mr. Ceccolini said we encourage people to go through the revolving doors as much as possible but if they can't do that there are two other regular doors they can be let into the facility.

Mr. Ceccolini said the last piece of roof that wasn't fixed last time is going to be fixed now. There is a little moisture problem in that area, a very small job. Mr. Nankin questioned if this is what was worked on previously? Mr. Ceccolini replied no.

Mr. Talbot said the PBC didn't suggest anything on the blower. He said the Council talked about the blower and we received 75 percent from FEMA for the blower

Mr. Ceccolini said if we keep the bubble off for two more weeks that affects a month's worth of lessons.

Mr. O'Donnell said it cuts into the profits of the facility.

Mr. Talbot said the CO (Certificate of Occupancy) was discussed. He said the facility should operate the rest of the season under the temporary CO.

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission Gene Carabello passed away at the age of 62 last week. He was the Building Supervisor at Arts Place and did a lot of volunteer work at the high school for kid's sports. He was a good member of the Department and will be missed greatly.

Park Status

Mr. Ceccolini said Kevin has been out grooming the baseball fields so they will be ready to go in the spring. Cheshire Academy came out to pull weeds on the fields.

Recreation Programs

Mr. Ceccolini said the winter program brochure copy is in the Cheshire Citizen because the Citizen is mailed out to every household in town.

Mr. Ceccolini said the tree lighting program is the following Sunday after Thanksgiving, December 1. He asked for help from Commission members.

Mr. Ceccolini told the Commission the Keith Gale bench was installed.

COMMISSIONER'S FORUM

Mr. Nankin wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a healthy one.

Mr. Kushner thanked Ms. Bertoni for the cookies and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Duffy wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and Hanukah because he will not be at the December meeting.

Mr. Fracasse and Mr. O'Donnell also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Ms. Bertoni said Saturday is the celebration for the completion of the West Main Street project. All are invited.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ms. Bertoni made a motion to adjourn.

MOVED: Mr. O'Donnell seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion was passed unanimously by those present. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Attest:

Claudia J. Baron, Clerk
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