

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2013 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE YOUTH
CENTER, CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT

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

Absent: Karen Bertoni and Ira Kushner

Guest Present: Bob DeJongh, Inland Wetlands Commission

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Commission Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

MINUTES OF JANUARY MEETING

Mr. Duffy noted a confusion he had regarding how the absences were worded in the January minutes. There was a brief discussion. Mr. Nankin responded and said if you are here you are present, if you are not here you are absent. There is nothing to worry about.

MOTION: Mr. O'Donnell made a motion to accept the January 2, 2013 minutes.

MOVED: Mr. Duffy seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

COUNCIL LIAISON

None given.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Communications

None given

Bob DeJongh, Inland Wetlands

Mr. DeJongh addressed the Commission and said P&R is charged with the upkeep and preservation of the recreation areas in town. He said the Inland Wetlands Commission does not have a problem with the maintenance of these areas but need to have a say in how it is carried out since we (Inland Wetlands) are regulated by the State of CT for wetland areas.

Mr. DeJongh further explained they are not opposed of any activity but want to know what to expect with what has to be done and where. The Inland Wetlands Commission wants to have some input. He said he has come tonight to discuss this. He further said they don't want to interfere but Mixville is a valuable wetland. There are limitations on what can be done. Mixville is listed as different soil types from the State of CT. He suggested that P&R come before Inland Wetlands and tell them what you want to do and we can come to the same conclusion in the end. Sometimes we could have a different perspective but the same ending result. He said they would like to assist the Scouts in Cheshire. He also said they would want interaction between the two departments. He said the Inland Wetlands Commission wanted him to come here tonight to the P&R meeting to address any questions P&R may have with these requests.

Mr. Nankin replied for 30 years P&R has been trimming the brush along Mixville Pond. This year it was an issue. How do we avoid that?

Mr. DeJongh replied that Suzanne will not tell you how to do it. But run the idea past her and she will tell you where you can do things or whether or not it could become an issue. The area where the Boy Scouts did their thing is a vital area. The cleaning up in this area is an area of filtration and needs to be done without the use of chemicals. It has a function; there is a flow to this area.

Mr. Nankin questioned what Mr. DeJongh's definition of "vital" is. Mr. DeJongh replied it provides a valuable resource for the town.

Mr. Ceccolini told Mr. DeJongh P&R will come back to his Commission with a plan.

Mr. DeJongh summarized and said if there is a project you want to do, run it by Suzanne. It could either be an issue or not problematic.

Mr. Ceccolini discussed the linear trail trimming and said there are alot of brush that starts in the wetlands and he told his crew not to touch it.

Mr. DeJongh replied you are in the right to trim it because it is a safety issue.

Mr. O'Donnell said the beavers were eating the trees at Lock 12 and we cleared them. Mr. DeJongh said to go to Suzanne in the future with something like that. Mr. O'Donnell explained

they were of a serious nature as they could have fallen at any moment with the amount of damage the beavers did.

Mr. DeJongh said trimming of trees is okay, cutting at the base, they would have a problem with that.

Mr. Ceccolini said he would go through Suzanne in the future.

Mr. O'Donnell questioned if there are other wetlands in our other town parks and if P&R knows where they are? Mr. Nankin replied yes, there are other wetlands in town parks and yes, P&R knows where they are.

Mr. DeJongh added that Milone & MacBroom, Inc. (MMI) did an extensive, detailed report on Bartlem Park several years ago.

Mr. Nankin thanked Mr. DeJongh for his input at tonight's meeting and told him he was welcome to stay if he wanted to.

Mr. DeJongh replied Inland Wetlands wants to help P&R get their job done.

Mr. DeJongh left the meeting at 7:25 P.M.

Pool Discussion

Mr. O'Donnell said he attended the meeting last night. There are new bids in for the dehumidification regarding putting a hole in the bubble. The location was going to be on the side but the location has changed to more in the center by the picnic benches, more towards the middle, around the corner. The sock will go along the wall, below the wires, along the great wall and be 18 feet off the ground. The sock is more like a collapsible tube; flexible. You could then direct the air to go anyway you want.

Mr. Duffy referred to the great wall in the past providing advertising, etc. Would it affect that? Mr. Ceccolini said he didn't think it would affect that but assumes it would block a view for some people for the score board.

Mr. O'Donnell said it would not interfere with people's heads or for the swimming.

There was a brief discussion of the price of the bids.

Mr. O'Donnell said the heating equipment is here and is being stored at Public Works. Mr. Nankin questioned how long it would take to install? Mr. O'Donnell said he is not sure of that because of the timing of the bubble cutter but guesses approximately ½ day to a day.

Mr. Duffy questioned if the bubble is going to head back for repairs? Mr. Veleber questioned if any of this would affect our warranty? Mr. O'Donnell replied no, the job will be done on-site.

Mr. O'Donnell said they are looking at two options: 1. An addendum for a computer system that would connect the two. It was a billing maintenance system. If we used a Town contractor, we could do it for less money. 2. The other option was to lengthen the ducts and lengthen the sock; the longer the sock the better the distribution of air.

Mr. Duffy asked where the humidity is measured. Mr. Ceccolini replied he thinks we have the low-budget meter.

Mr. O'Donnell said the new blower didn't do anything for the dehumidification. This system will solve that issue.

Mr. Ceccolini said the only problem they may have is that the one piece of roof that was never fixed. He said everything is working great except that piece. He added that is being worked on now.

Mr. Nankin asked Mr. O'Donnell if he feels the situation got the proper attention. Mr. O'Donnell said it came to be a little shorter sock. He said this is a good deal and he's happy with it. The length of the sock is 90 to 100 feet and the pool end to end is 250 feet. He said he asked if the sock could collect mold and was told no.

Mr. Nankin thanked Mr. O'Donnell for representing P&R.

Mr. O'Donnell said when the heat is taken out of the facility; we recover 70 to 80 percent of the heat when the new air comes in. We are losing 20 to 25 percent of our heat.

Mr. O'Donnell said it is supposed to be voted on tonight and move onto the Town Council on Tuesday. It unanimously passed from the sub-committee.

Mr. O'Donnell added that someone can monitor the system with a computer system. In severe weather, this new system would be turned off.

Mr. Duffy asked how long do you want to see this operating before you make the last payment. Mr. Duffy said if you do it and keep the bubble up for 2 days, is that enough?

Mr. O'Donnell replied once it is approved it goes to the Town Attorney.

Mr. Ceccolini said it is bringing in fresh air. It is not really a dehumidification system. Once you blow in enough fresh air, you address the codes.

Mr. Duffy questioned if something was going to be measured to decide? Mr. Ceccolini responded when you blow in the fresh air you meet the code.

Mr. Ceccolini said the pool is running very well. He said they will be monitoring the facility because of the snow storm.

Mr. Nankin asked if it should shed the snow easier. The snow should constantly be coming down? Mr. Ceccolini replied yes and said the YMCA has a major swim meet there this weekend.

Recreation Person of the Year

MOTION: Mr. Veleber made a motion to have Steve Berardi be P&R Person of the Year.

MOVED: Mr. O'Donnell seconded the motion.

VOTE: The vote passed unanimously by those present.

Elections

Mr. Veleber nominated Mr. Nankin as Chairman for the P&R Commission.
Mr. O'Donnell seconded the nomination.
Mr. Nankin closed the nominations.

MOTION: Mr. Veleber made a motion that Jim Nankin be Chairman of the P&R Commission.

MOVED: Mr. O'Donnell seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Mr. Veleber nominated Patrick Duffy for Vice Chairman of the P&R Commission.
Mr. O'Donnell seconded the nomination.
Mr. Nankin closed the nominations.

MOTION: Mr. Veleber made a motion to elect Patrick Duffy as the Vice Chairman for the P&R Commission.

MOVED: Mr. O'Donnell seconded the motion.

VOTE: All were in favor of the motion, the motion passed unanimously by those present.

Mr. O'Donnell nominated Paul Fracasse for Secretary of the P&R Commission.
Mr. Veleber seconded the nomination.
Mr. Nankin closed the nominations.

MOTION: Mr. O'Donnell made a motion to elect Paul Fracasse as the Secretary for the P&R Commission.

MOVED: Mr. Veleber seconded the motion.

VOTE: All were in favor of the motion, the motion passed unanimously by those present.

DOG PARK

Mr. Ceccolini said there is a fund raiser this weekend for the dog park.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

Mr. O'Donnell said the Beautification Commission had their Awards Ceremony recently. They recognized four residents and 12 businesses and the Boy Scouts for their work on the barrels for 2012. The awards are given every couple of years. Upcoming events are the Spring Expo and planting trees around town.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Park Status

Mr. Ceccolini said trees have come down in result of the storms we have had.

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission that Kevin will have his hip replaced in March which will result in him missing work for a couple of months. He will be missed.

Recreation Programs

Mr. Ceccolini said the winter programs are doing well, 85 percent of the kids are playing basketball.

The high school recreation teams have 20 teams playing.

Mr. Ceccolini said he's had two meetings already with sports groups for the fields. The parade committee has contacted him already. He said if anyone wants to be involved in the parade, please get involved.

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission there is a move in town from the Vets to get a huge flag in town at Bartlem Park.

COMMISSIONER'S FORUM

Mr. Nankin informed the Commission that Karen Bertoni cannot attend because her classes were switched to Wednesday night's and she has offered to resign. Mr. Nankin discussed with the Commission members if they can afford to have her vacancy for that long, possibly three more meetings? She does not want to resign.

Mr. O'Donnell said he thinks the Commission can go until May but not for the rest of the year. He added he doesn't think getting a quorum is an issue.

Mr. Nankin said if it is continuous beyond May he will contact her.

Mr. Duffy thanked Mr. O'Donnell for all he did with the air handling system.

Mr. O'Donnell wished everyone safety in the upcoming storm as did Mr. Veleber.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Veleber 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 8:20 P.M.

Attest:

Claudia J. Baron, Clerk
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