

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2014 AT 6:30 P.M
AT MIXVILLE PARK, CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT

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

Staff Present: Bob Ceccolini

CALL TO ORDER

Jim Nankin, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Commission Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

MINUTES OF THE JULY MEETING

MOTION: Mr. Veleber made a motion to accept the July, 2014 minutes.

MOVED: Ms. Bertoni seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed 6 to 1, one abstention from Patrick Duffy.

COUNCIL LIAISON

Mr. Talbot is absent from the meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Communications

Mr. Nankin said the only communications he has is a bench request for Ben Feinn. The bench is requested by Howard Harmetz and Ben's daughter, Margorie Feinn Seggerman. The location requested is on the linear trail near Mount Sanford Road.

MOTION: Mr. Nankin made a motion to accept the bench request for Ben Feinn for the location of the linear trail near Mount Sanford Road.

MOVED: Mr. O'Donnell seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Pool Discussion (Sheila Adams)

Ms. Adams said she has processed extensions for the last two days to extend passes until October 12 earning \$2,000.

Ms. Adams said she was approved from Elim Park and Michael Milone to do swimming lessons at Elim Park. She also noted 120 children are requesting lessons.

Ms. Adams said soil testing would be done on September 9, 2014. P&Z has a meeting next Wednesday presenting the design and October 15 is the public hearing, if approved.

She noted the earliest construction could start on November 1 if ready. She said they would like the concrete work done before winter. The thought is to hire a general contractor to come in. She added a lot depends on whether we will be ready for the anticipated date.

Ms. Adams told the Commission that we have Arizon for the design.

Mr. O'Donnell asked if there is money in the budget for a contractor. Ms. Adams replied yes.

Ms. Adams said the best case scenario would be to open the pool in May, 2015.

Mr. O'Donnell noted every day that goes by the product gets more expensive.

Ms. Adams informed the Commission spalling (water getting under concrete and freezing) is happening on the pool deck now. She said there are seams in the vinyl where water can get in.

Parks Discussion (Kevin Simmons)

Kevin is absent from tonight's meeting; Bob Ceccolini gave the report.

Mr. Ceccolini said the two soccer fields at Quinnipiac Park were redone, Fields 3 and 4 (far back corner). He noted they try to rebuild a field on a year to year basis. Sixty yards of topsoil was brought in to do the fields. He said Chuck Sherwood, a private contractor, came in to do the topsoil, overseed and hay. The price was \$15,000 but we are getting ½ the price from the Soccer Club. Mr. Ceccolini said the far back corner is the worst field at Quinnipiac.

Mr. Ceccolini said Bartlem Park has red dugouts. When Tony Drozd was here he fabricated two of them and CYB just fabricated two more. The fields at Bartlem are really nice fields.

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission the ten acres in front of the prison probably will not happen. He said the field demands are no longer what they used to be.

Mr. Ceccolini said drainage work would be done at MacNamara this fall. The basketball players are donating money for a bench for them; not a memory bench.

The tennis courts at the high school were repaved and so were Dodd Jr. High and the Youth Center.

Mr. Ceccolini said there is money in the budget to repave the linear trail. He said someone from Tilcon came out to take a look and assess. He said repaving is not needed, just need to redo the cracks. Mr. Ceccolini said the guy from Tilcon came in by Cornwall Avenue and repaved some of the cracks and it came out great.

Mr. Ceccolini said P&R was given \$190,000 to add stone dust and fence but we would end up giving money back because we are only spending \$60,000 to \$70,000.

Administrative Discussion (Stephanie Dunn)

Stephanie Dunn was absent from the meeting due to illness.

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission it has been a smooth transition with Stephanie. He said there is a major change coming up with events policy.

Recreation Discussion (SandyPetela)

Sandy Petela was absent from the meeting.

Mr. Ceccolini said summer camps were well attended. The Counselors received positive reviews. He added that kids were turned down for jobs as Counselors this summer.

Mr. Ceccolini said some fall programs have started early. He encourages people to go on-line and sign up.

Mr. Ceccolini talked about the parking proposal for the high school. He said they are going to begin charging kids at Bartlem Park, the Yellow House and the Youth Center the same fee as the high school does; \$125. It isn't fair that some kids park for free while others have to pay the fee. We are going to sell 25 to 30 spots. The cost is \$125 then will drop to \$75 then to \$50 as kids receive their licenses. He said they have given warnings and tickets before but they find different places to park without paying.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

Mr. O'Donnell said there is nothing to report from the meeting.

Mr. O'Donnell said it was brought up again that the old plaques from Playground in the Park are not displayed. Mr. Ceccolini said he is not sure if we have all the plaques.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Operating and Capital Budget

Mr. Ceccolini said he isn't sure why this is still on the agenda because we received everything we wanted. The playgrounds at Quinnipiac, Cheshire Park and MacNamara will be replaced and we received the mason dump truck we wanted.

Dog Park

Mr. Ceccolini said the Group still wants water on the premises. He said paving would be done in the parking lot at Arts Place.

He noted the Group hopes to get a shade unit mounted in the park; some type of gazebo in the middle.

Mr. Fracasse said he helped judge the dog park calendar and had a good time. Mr. Ceccolini said he appreciated Mr. Fracasses's volunteerism.

Mr. Ceccolini said the dog park is still raising money.

COMMISSIONER'S FORUM

Mr. Duffy thanked everyone for making the food tonight.

Mr. Fracasse talked about the electronic sign at the high school.

Mr. Ceccolini said regarding the sign board they are speaking about it at the Rotary Club meeting next week. The Rotary and Lions Club are both interested. The electric sign board has to be brought before P&Z.

Mr. O'Donnell thanked everyone for the food. He congratulated Mr. Ceccolini on a good concert summer.

Ms. Bertoni thanked Sheila Adams for the work she does and Mr. Ceccolini for the shirts.

Mr. Nowak thanked everyone for the food and the picnic. He spoke of the electronic sign and the bench at Mixville for Ernest Holburst. Mr. Ceccolini said the bench there could happen.

Mr. Ceccolini noted that Dan Nowak did a great job on promoting the concerts this year, noting it was the biggest crowd they had. The concert this Friday is Grey Negative.

Mr. Nowak wanted to know if P&R oversees the fall festival. Mr. Nankin and Mr. Ceccolini replied no.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Duffy 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 8:00 P.M.

Attest:

Claudia J. Baron, Clerk

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