

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M  
AT THE YOUTH CENTER, CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT

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

Staff Present: Bob Ceccolini

Absent: Karen Bertoni

**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 THE JUNE MEETING**

MOTION: Mr. O'Donnell made a motion to accept the September 3, 2014 minutes.

MOVED: Mr. Nowak seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

**COUNCIL LIAISON**

Mr. Talbot was absent; no report given.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Communications

Mr. Nankin said he didn't have any communications to report.

Pool Discussion

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission the height of the roof was approved.

Mr. Nankin asked Mr. Ceccolini if the soil testing was done. Mr. Ceccolini responded that some rocky terrain was hit; there is ledge down there. He said the company would return with something about it in their plan. He said they are waiting for Arizon's preliminary plan to come back. Mr. Ceccolini said there are no time tables for the project until the plans come back.

Mr. Ceccolini said the pool closes next weekend and is closed for the winter. He said they are keeping Sheila and two staff members on for winterizing, doing the lockers and the floors.

Mr. Duffy questioned if the lessons would be held at Elim Park and who would do them. Mr. Ceccolini responded yes the lessons are at Elim Park and Sheila would be doing all lessons. He added most likely six weeks of work is to be done at the pool facility.

Mr. Ceccolini said all the equipment would not be stored in the facility like it was last year. Equipment would be moved down to the garage so they can work on the floor. The new design for the floor is designed to walk on when wet without causing anyone to slip. He noted the goal is to open the facility by June/July 2015.

Mr. O'Donnell asked if the pool would be drained for winterizing. Mr. Ceccolini responded no, it won't be fully drained. There would be a cover over the pool and the water underneath would stay heated to a minimum temperature.

Mr. O'Donnell asked if the water would stay in the pool during construction. Mr. Ceccolini responded he does not know.

Mr. O'Donnell asked if we could take the water out and not heat it. Mr. Ceccolini said none of the pipes were designed to be exposed to sit outside for the winter. He said it is worth it to keep it heated.

**BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION**

Mr. O'Donnell said there was nothing to report except they compliment P&R on the appearance of all the parks.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### Operating and Capital Budget

Mr. Ceccolini said the proposal from the playground company is under budget for equipment. The three new playgrounds would be installed next spring. He added one park would have the harmony xylophones that he talked about at a previous meeting. They are called harmony parks and are popular among kids, people that can or cannot play instruments, and special needs people. It is a soothing sound like wind chimes. Mr. Ceccolini said he hopes the location would be Cheshire Park.

Mr. Ceccolini said P&R is waiting for a truck from last year's budget. He said extended cab trucks have been banned. He said he asked for one because of the summer crews with all the college students. Mr. Ceccolini said P&R is getting two trucks, the truck for the crew and the mason dump truck.

### Dog Park

Mr. Ceccolini said there isn't really an update. The group hopes to get the water out at the site still and the gazebo for shade. The water fountain would be a fountain on top and a dog dish on the bottom for the dogs. He added the gazebo isn't a problem and has to be approved by the Building Department. Mr. Ceccolini said when the group is done with these two projects they want to dissolve as a group.

### Parks Update

Mr. Ceccolini said the crew worked at Cheshire Park on the main field. They ripped up the edges from the backstop to the edges and made it all clay. They will make the arc bigger, grind the stumps and remove one dead tree.

Mr. Ceccolini said work at Quinnipiac came out well. P&R is down to five guys maintaining six fields.

Mr. Veleber referred to Cheshire Park and said the handicap step against the wooden fence, the board is still up. Mr. O'Donnell said it has not been removed and they need to make room for handicap people. Mr. Nankin said there used to be an opening there.

### Recreation Update

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission the Lion's Club approved \$10,000 for the new sign board. He added P&R has \$30,000 now to get a new digital sign board. The LED sign can be programmed at P&R and at Steve Trifone's office. It has to be a community activity. The new

sign would give us more than eight signs. The LED has a longer life and would entail large letters and two-sided.

### **COMMISSIONER'S FORUM**

Mr. Nowak said he had a good time at the P&R picnic.

Mr. Duffy thanked everyone who was concerned about him last month.

Mr. Nankin talked about a drone he saw at Matt Jalowiec's party recently. Mr. Ceccolini said he would be interested in using one for the town parks.

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission of the Trunk or Treat being held at Bartlem again for Halloween this year. It is a Halloween event for children and cost \$5.00. The object is for you to bring candy that night to hand out and people decorate the trunks of their cars and the kids come around to each trunk to trick or treat. He said the PD will not let anyone leave until every child is accounted for. The parties involved are P&R, Jr. Women's Club and the PD. The location would be the pool parking lot.

Mr. O'Donnell said there is a football game that night of the event. Mr. Ceccolini said they may change that game to Thursday night.

### **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 8:00 P.M.

Attest:

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Claudia J. Baron, Clerk  
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