

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M
AT THE YOUTH CENTER, CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT

Present: Jim Nankin, Chairman, Patrick Duffy, Paul Fracasse, Dan Nowak,
and Karen Bertoni

Staff Present: Bob Ceccolini, Brian Blair and Kevin Fitzsimmons

Absent: Mike O'Donnell

Guests Present: Joe Loda & Family, retired from CYB
Joe Miller & Family, CYB
George Sabo, President of CYB
Brian Bavaro, CYB
Jennifer Denne, CYB

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.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Rec Person of the Year

Mr. Nankin presented Joe Loda with the Parks & Recreation Person of the Year award that was given to him tonight. He read the plaque to everyone at the meeting and congratulated Joe on his achievement.

Mr. Loda commented it has been a lot of fun, hard work and he would miss everyone. He added the years were a blast and appreciates the award.

Mr. Nankin added the volunteers as Mr. Loda keep this working and going.

Mr. Loda thanked P&R and said the playing has improved as well as the safety of the kids. He said he enjoyed talking to Mr. C (Bob Ceccolini).

There wasn't any Fall ball when Mr. Ceccolini started here in Cheshire. He said things have taken off in the last 20 years. The moms and dads who work on the fields, coach the teams, the

work crews, and people that have put money into the fields are the ones that deserve all the credit. He said other people comment on our fields from other towns that come here to play. He said Joe put in a lot of years. He noted his organization skills and the many groups that come in to use the fields. Eventually, your children grow up and you move on and a new set of people come in to take over. George Sabo is the next guy coming in. Mr. Ceccolini told Joe Loda from the bottom of our hearts, thank you.

A picture was taken of the staff and CYB members with Mr. Loda.

After a brief gathering, the guests, Mr. Fitzsimmons and Mr. Blair exited the room and the meeting continued.

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER MEETING

MOTION: Mr. Duffy made a motion to accept the December, 2014 minutes.

MOVED: Mr. Fracasse seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

COUNCIL LIAISON

Mr. Talbot informed the Commission the Council had a meeting on December 30, 2014 regarding approving the pool facility contract. Arizon requested a reconciliation of dollar amounts of the original presentation and the contract numbers. He noted that Rob Oris said we should be \$26,000 in our favor. Arcadis said we are \$19,300 in their favor. This knocks our contingency down to \$50,000.

Mr. Nankin asked what the money is for. Mr. Talbot replied for the lighting upgrades and other items that they failed to include. The Council is requesting to amend the contract with the new numbers.

Mr. Nankin questioned if the lighting is set forth by the PBC (Public Building Commission). Mr. Talbot said it should have been put in the contract but wasn't, it isn't our error.

Mr. Ceccolini said the Energy Commission recommended LED's.

Mr. Talbot said the garage doors were also discussed at the meeting. The R-factor was part of the presentation with us originally.

Mr. Nankin wanted to know how much of an R-factor can we get with glass doors. Mr. Ceccolini replied they are not glass doors, they are like fiberglass.

Mr. Nankin asked if the numbers are justifiable, will they cause a lengthy delay. Mr. Talbot responded as long as the resolution passes. The presentation made by Arcadis gives an original date of September 6 but now they say it is a possibility it could be open by July 17, 2015. Not sure what the opening date is at this time.

Mr. Ceccolini noted we have to prepare for the July 17 opening in case it really happens, we have to be ready. We are putting together a plan and we would have to line up the staff for that date. He said hopefully we can keep the college kids busy at Mixville.

Mr. Duffy asked if the facility would be shut down a couple of weeks in the fall. Mr. Talbot said the Contractors will work until its completion.

Mr. Nowak asked what if the facility doesn't open until September 6. Mr. Ceccolini said Sheila Adams gets alerts each month now and would get weekly updates as we get closer and will keep in touch with the staff.

Mr. Duffy requested Mr. Talbot to copy and bring the design drawings to the next P&R meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Communications

Mr. Nankin said he did not have any communications to share with the Commission tonight.

Pool Discussion

Mr. Ceccolini said the lessons went very well at Elim Park. More people are signed up for the next session. Lessons are day, evenings and Saturday's.

Meeting Dates

MOTION: Mr. Duffy made a motion to accept the meeting dates of the P&R Commission for 2015. If there are changes, Mr. Nankin will let us know.

MOVED: Ms. Bertoni seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed 4 to 1, Mr. Nankin opposing until he checks the dates.

Election of Officers

Mr. Nankin informed the Commission that Dave Veleber has left the Commission and joined P&Z. The vacancy belongs to a Republican; let him know if someone is interested.

Mr. Duffy nominated Mr. Nankin as Chairman for the P&R Commission.
Mr. Fracasse seconded the nomination.
Mr. Nankin closed the nominations.

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

MOVED: Mr. Fracasse seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Mr. Nankin nominated Patrick Duffy for Vice Chairman of the P&R Commission.
Mr. Fracasse seconded the nomination.
Mr. Nankin closed the nominations.

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

MOVED: Mr. Fracasse seconded the motion.

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

Mr. Nankin nominated Paul Fracasse for Secretary of the P&R Commission.
Ms. Bertoni seconded the nomination.
Mr. Nankin closed the nominations.

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

MOVED: Ms. Bertoni seconded the motion.

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

BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

Mr. O'Donnell was absent from the meeting so there was no report given.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dog Park

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission that work was done in December due to complaints about mud in areas. Brian Blair did the work. Brick pavers were added to the muddy areas and we will probably add them to the entrance and by the benches.

Mr. Ceccolini said the group is still earning money and is having a bowling fundraiser in February.

Mr. Duffy questioned what would happen if we have a lot of snow. Mr. Ceccolini said we are plowing the parking area. People create a pathway when they enter and leave, we do not shovel.

Parks Update

Mr. Ceccolini said the cracks were repaired along the trail. Any of the washed out areas have been rip rapped and improved. A Contractor was hired to do this kind of work. Stone dust is the next phase and we are going to update signs.

Mr. Nankin said he is worried about Cornwall, Jarvis and Route 42 locations of the linear trail.

Recreation Update

Mr. Ceccolini said the playground equipment for Quinnipiac, MacNamara and Cheshire Park is arriving next week. Our guys will take out the old equipment parallel to the north parking lot and Route 10 for Cheshire Park. The three ball fields and football field is where all the people are so the playground would be in sight of everyone in the park.

Mr. Ceccolini said he has to go back to P&Z to get approved. The new playgrounds at Quinnipiac and MacNamara would be right where the playgrounds are now. Mr. Ceccolini also said the harmonious wind chimes would also be added to Cheshire Park.

Mr. Ceccolini talked about the sign board and said they have not received any money yet from the BOE. He said he ordered the sign and received a good deal on it if we bought it by December 31, 2014. A base still needs to be built to support the sign. The bottom of the base would have the black marble with the BOE logo, town logo and the Lions Club logo. The sign is going to be 5 feet by 8 feet.

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission the winter programs have begun. The high school basketball leagues on Saturdays have 24 teams (240 kids).

Budget Update

Mr. Ceccolini said the budget is due next Friday. He said Cheshire Community Band is looking for a subsidy from the Town.

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission that Mr. Nankin received an award for the 2014 Volunteer for the State.

COMMISSIONER'S FORUM

Ms. Bertoni wanted to wish everyone a happy new year.

Mr. Nowak wanted to know if cold weather affects the parks. Mr. Ceccolini said he is more concerned with what the park guys can achieve off season. There are indoor projects and plowing. There is very little usage in the parks besides the trail and the skateboard park.

Mr. Talbot informed Mr. Nankin and Mr. Ceccolini that Patrick Duffy and Mike O'Donnell's terms expire by the end of January.

Mr. Nankin replied they are already going in.

Mr. Duffy congratulated Mr. Nankin for his 22nd year as Commissioner and his award he received recently.

Mr. Duffy congratulated Mr. Ceccolini on his Sports Hall of Fame award in Branford and his Cheshire Employee of the Year award and a happy new year to everyone.

Mr. Fracasse said he is glad to be Secretary again.

Mr. Nankin said happy New Year to everyone.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Duffy made a motion to adjourn.

MOVED: Mr. Fracasse seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion was passed unanimously by those present. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 P.M.

Attest:

Claudia J. Baron, Clerk
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