

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M  
AT THE YOUTH CENTER, CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT

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

Staff Present: Bob Ceccolini

Council Present: Peter Talbot

Absent: Karen Bertoni

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Nankin 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. Duffy made a motion to accept the June, 2015 minutes.

MOVED: Mr. Fracasse seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

**COUNCIL LIAISON**

*Capital Budget* – Mr. Talbot said the budget meeting is later this month and he hasn't seen anything yet. The discussion on the capital budget starts in July and ends in August.

*Linear Trail* – Mr. Talbot said work is progressing for the linear trail. He talked about the location between West Main Street and Jarvis. They are going to extend it from Jarvis to connect to the parking lot. The last piece would be from Cornwall to West Main Street. Mr. Talbot said they are going up 100 feet to connect to the parking lot then they will stop.

Mr. Ceccolini added the piece to West Main Street has a chance of being completed by the end of the year. It would consist of a boardwalk, paving, and then boardwalk again. He said there are some issues with the piece.

Mr. Nankin said it is now 12 feet instead of 10 feet.

Mr. Ceccolini said the town would have to pay for the maintenance of the piece. Mr. Fracasse questioned the boardwalk that was referenced? Mr. Ceccolini responded it is going through the wetlands so it is more of a boardwalk in that area.

Mr. Ceccolini said the Jarvis piece has no bathrooms because there is no water in that area. They would put in a clevis and put chemicals in there. The other bathrooms behind Ball & Socket, the Council would like those bathrooms to have water.

Mr. O'Donnell asked if there would be a water fountain somewhere. Mr. Ceccolini replied it is not part of the plan right now.

Mr. Ceccolini said three memorial benches have been purchased already for this part of the trail. They will be the same design we have now.

Mr. Talbot said there was a volunteer clean-up at Mixville with Liz Linehan.

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission the orange buoys that were at the pool and no longer needed were moved over to Mixville. New rope attaches the buoys and they were put out in the water for the swimmers, looks nice.

*Pool Discussion* - Mr. Talbot said the peer review came back for the foundation. It was not certified, wanted Arizon to make changes to the document. Mr. Talbot said the peer review would stamp it then Keith Darin would approve it.

Mr. O'Donnell asked if there is a time table for this. Mr. Talbot responded there isn't any time table regarding this. It all depends on how long Arizon takes.

Mr. Talbot said the issues given to Arizon are not a big deal. We are asking for more information rather than more changes. Mr. Ceccolini added that the issues are minor that they are trying to work out.

Mr. Nowak said the Friends of the Pool and the parents do not think that the work will be done until next year. How does the swim team deal with this?

Mr. Trifone replied the cost is high for teams. The girls swim teams are all set for the fall at Hamden Hall. The boys swim is a bit more difficult, we have to bus them in. The boys have not had a home meet in two years.

Mr. Talbot said Arizon has incentives. If the construction goes beyond their provided date then they have to pay the town penalties. Mr. Ceccolini added it is up to the town attorneys.

Mr. Duffy said his concern is that there is no water in the pool. He is afraid it will crack.

Mr. Ceccolini said they were told to drain it because of the construction. They cleaned it and power washed it when it was drained. It cost \$150 a day in chemicals to keep it chlorinated if there was water in the pool.

Mr. Duffy suggested they put salt water in; feels it needs some weight to prevent it from popping.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

### Communications

Mr. Nankin didn't have any communications to share but Mr. Ceccolini did.

Mr. Ceccolini said he received an e-mail on May 21, 2015 for a request for a bench from Patrick Griffin, his mother Ruthellen Griffin, age 92, passed away. He wants to install a memorial bench in honor of his mother. The location requested is between North and South Brooksvale Road and the trestle to the south has a particular fondness.

**MOTION:** Mr. Nankin made a motion to accept the request for the memorial bench from Patrick Griffin for his mother, Ruthellen Griffin in her honor.

**MOVED:** Mr. O'Donnell seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** The motion passed unanimously by those present.

There was a brief discussion regarding benches. Mr. Ceccolini said a bench for Theresa Fitzpatrick is at the tennis courts and he's hoping to get a couple more benches to match. Also, benches at Mixville are for Joe Fagan, Greg Schena and fishermen.

Mr. Nankin asked if benches could be installed at Cheshire Park and Mr. Ceccolini replied yes. Mr. Duffy added that is not a place of solitude, but a rather a busy place.

## **BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION**

Mr. O'Donnell said they have a new Chairperson, Bill Bonaminio. In the fall they will install more trees along Bartlem continuing the direction going south.

Mr. O'Donnell asked Mr. Ceccolini about the lights at Ives Corner. Mr. Ceccolini replied he has been investigating the best lights to put there. Partially vandalism but mostly think it's the mowers hitting the poles at that location. Seven new lights are being installed.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### Dog Park

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission that the dog fountain was installed.

### Parks Update

Mr. Ceccolini said there have been very positive feed back's regarding the sign board with only one complaint. The complaint was from a woman who was trying to read the sign and that resulted in a car accident at the intersection.

Mr. Ceccolini said there are different colors on the board besides red. He said the granite plaques are ready.

Mr. Ceccolini talked about the playground that were installed, the workers will be back, had a prior commitment. He informed the Commission there has been vandalism at Cheshire Park already.

Mr. Ceccolini said cameras are being installed in all the parks, schools and town buildings and this process can't be rushed. There will eventually be a camera at Cheshire Park.

Mr. Ceccolini referred to Quinnipiac and said people tried to remove the playground equipment but were unsuccessful. He said the town has talked about a college kid working at night cleaning bathrooms at the parks and checking on the playground equipment at the parks at night. Mr. Ceccolini said the playgrounds are almost completed and at Quinnipiac Park people have been filling the dumpsters with their own personal items.

### Recreation Update

Mr. Ceccolini handed out the concert schedule to the Commission members.

### Budget Update

Mr. Ceccolini said the mason body dump truck is arriving any day now. In next year's capital budget would be a request for the youth center tennis courts.

## **COMMISSIONER'S FORUM**

**MOTION:** Mr. O'Donnell made a motion to cancel the August meeting and resume in September.

**MOVED:** Mr. Duffy seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** The motion passed by those unanimously by those present.

Mr. Nankin added if something urgent arises a Special Meeting would be called.

The picnic and the September meeting are tentatively set at Cheshire Park for September 2, 2015.

Mr. Nankin wishes everyone a nice summer.

Mr. Nowak said he would be submitting his letter to the Editor of the Cheshire Herald soon. He said some of the items he is covering are the concerts, playgrounds, electronic board and being safe on the linear trail.

There was a brief discussion regarding safety on the linear trail. Mr. O'Donnell suggested painting the speed of 10 mph right on the asphalt of the trail.

Mr. Trifone said it was good to be back on the Commission. He said he recently attended a meeting with the half marathon committee, the Police Department and the Board of Education. What was discussed at the meeting is that they want a cut thru from the linear trail to the back of the high school. They would pay for the cut thru. Mr. Trifone said it would be beneficial to the high school kids also.

Mr. Duffy added it could be a problem also having the cut thru.

Mr. Ceccolini said it can be done. Mr. O'Donnell added it is all wetlands in there.

Mr. Trifone wished everyone a good summer.

Mr. Duffy said he watched the beginners for the Cheshire Youth Baseball. By the end of the program they could all hit and catch and it was a nice experience to watch. Mr. Duffy wished everyone a nice summer also.

Mr. Fracasse welcomed Mr. Trifone back to the Commission. He said he attended a graduation party on Saturday at Mixville, everyone had a good time. He wished everyone a nice summer.

Mr. O'Donnell welcomed Mr. Trifone back also. He questioned who put up the sign at North Brooksvale? Mr. Ceccolini said the Police Department did it.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Mr. O'Donnell made a motion to adjourn.

**MOVED:** Mr. Trifone seconded the motion.

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

Attest:

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Claudia J. Baron, Clerk  
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