

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M
AT THE COMMUNITY POOL, CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT

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

Absent: Karen Bertoni

Staff Present: Bob Ceccolini

Council Present: Peter Talbot

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 SEPTEMBER MEETING

MOTION: Mr. Duffy made a motion to accept the September, 2015 minutes.

MOVED: Mr. Trifone seconded the motion.

Discussion – Mr. Nowak had a change from Page 2 of the minutes. His last name was spelled incorrectly.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

COUNCIL LIAISON

Mr. Talbot informed the Commission he had nothing P&R related to discuss.

Mr. Ceccolini said he had a construction meeting with MMI and told the commission the trail is moving along but they may not have enough time to get it all done. He said the viewing platform was moved which would lessen the size of the pond, which is not a problem. Mr. Ceccolini said when the Town decided to do the platform it had to go to the State of CT and the Contractor does not have the plans back yet. The Hawks Landing plans have not been finalized yet. Mr. Ceccolini said they do not want excavators to come in on the final course but to come in

on the binder course. It may not be done this fall and take a little longer than expected. Mr. Ceccolini said H.I. Stone from Southbury is the company working on the trail and they are trying to get it done in November. They would apply for an extension if needed.

Mr. Talbot said he had an inquiry regarding the parking lot lines at Cornwall Avenue and the complaint is that they have faded.

Mr. Ceccolini said they are painting five intersections at the trail and would check into the inquiry.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Communications

Mr. Ceccolini said he has a request for a bench at the dog park for a guy who has just passed away, Norf Petrucci, in his memory. His relatives will raise the money for the cost of the bench.

MOTION: Mr. Nankin made a motion to approve the bench for Norf Petrucci to be installed at the dog park in his memory.

MOVED: Mr. Duffy seconded the motion.

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

Pool

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission the Maintainer's position at the pool would start at the end of October. A couple of his duties would include cleaning up and assembling benches. The position is filled by Brian Blair of our Park's crew. He has electrician knowledge. Tony DiDomizio was hired to replace Jim Kwiatowski's spot and he was hired Monday – he would handle Bartlem Park and a few of the town buildings.

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission there is a posting for the front desk position at the pool for a full-time position and we would hopefully be able to fill it in early December. It would go out to internal employees first then would be advertised. The four part-time people for the front desk, the Pool Coordinator and the head lifeguard positions we think they will all come back.

If all goes on schedule Mr. Ceccolini said we are here mid-December and open a month after.

Mr. Nankin said he has heard predictions for a mild winter through the end of January.

Mr. O'Donnell asked if there are any bids on what it would cost to grind down the floor. Mr. Ceccolini said jack hammering is not an option and patching or putting in a new deck would have to be down the road.

Mr. Ceccolini said there is an expensive score board coming to be installed.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

Mr. O'Donnell had plans for the entrance to the linear park to show the Commission at West Main Street from West Main Street to Jarvis Street.

Mr. Ceccolini said there are three benches of eight to nine benches being installed. Mr. Ceccolini said it is just short of two miles from Jarvis to Southington.

Mr. O'Donnell said the Commission would make recommendations on what to be planted.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dog Park

Mr. Ceccolini said the gazebo has been installed. The park has an active group of volunteers. People have requested a better handicap access-way. He informed the Commission the water fountains were broken for two days and we heard about it right away. A lot of people watch and report if something is wrong.

Parks Update

Mr. Ceccolini said there was a partial closing of one of the fields at Bartlem to upgrade the irrigation system. Chuck Sherwood is doing this work. Mr. Ceccolini said he was told there was a problem with the water pressure at the park and we may have to add more sprinkler heads.

Mr. Ceccolini said usually on November 1st we rent a compressor and blow out the irrigation systems. The water-less bathroom on Jarvis will not be shut down. He added they try and keep the bathrooms open for football and soccer but they do have to close them soon.

Mr. Ceccolini said two events were approved to be displayed on the sign, one for the democratic committee and the other for the Congregation Church. Any event from a non-profit would be approved.

Capital Budget Update

Mr. Ceccolini said the tennis courts would be worked on in June and would be shut down for two months. We will repair the existing cracks to get through the season. Mr. Ceccolini said the post tension is guaranteed not to crack for 20 years.

Mr. Ceccolini said they would be waiting until next year to do it but they are getting a club cab truck and all of the P&R trucks would be green environmentally, hopefully.

Recreations Update

Also, waiting for next year is a request for a new guy. We have added responsibilities with the additional sets of bathrooms and parking lots for the trail and another person is needed.

Mr. Nankin referred to the publicity of the crime on the trail especially from Hamden to New Haven and was wondering if we are pro-active in speaking with the Cheshire P.D. about our concerns.

Mr. Ceccolini replied they have upped their bike patrols on the trail and believe they would be pro-active also.

Mr. Duffy asked how many miles of trails are there in Cheshire. Mr. Ceccolini responded about nine miles of trails.

Mr. Duffy said he would be happy to work on a committee to work with the Cheshire P.D. for safety on the trail. He had a suggestion instead of a call box on the trail to have a lever to pull down that is wired to the P.D. if there is a problem on the trail.

COMMISSIONER'S FORUM

Mr. Nowak questioned Mr. Ceccolini how often he gets updates on the pool facility. Mr. Ceccolini responded Sheila Adams is here every day and he gets updates from meetings. Every 3rd Tuesday is a meeting.

Mr. Nowak asked if there have been any surprises, Mr. Ceccolini replied no. He added with the construction going on they know what is going on.

Mr. Nowak said he feels it has been a very productive year for P&R. Mr. Nankin agreed and said it has been a good year and added there are so many more places now.

Mr. O'Donnell thanked Mr. Ceccolini for the crews at the fall festival and congratulated them.

Mr. Duffy said sometimes things happen for P&R slowly and sometimes they happen all at once.

Mr. Fracasse wanted an update on Mixville. Mr. Ceccolini responded the bridge over the dam has been delivered and it is the wrong color but looks really good. It is a nice addition to the park and we received a nice editorial in the paper regarding Mixville.

Mr. Nankin added we have many facilities and we should be proud of all of them.

Mr. Fracasse wished everyone a happy Halloween.

Mr. Trifone asked if P&R is going to do the trunk or treat this year. Mr. Ceccolini replied no, lots of families did it on their own last year.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Duffy made a motion to adjourn.

MOVED: Mr. Trifone seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion was passed unanimously by those present. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Attest:

Claudia J. Baron, Clerk
P&ROctr15.doc