

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M  
AT THE CHESHIRE COMMUNITY POOL, CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT

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

Absent: Karen Bertoni

Staff Present: Bob Ceccolini and Sheila Adams

Council Present: Peter Talbot

The Commission toured the facility before the meeting began.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Nankin called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Commission Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

**MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER MEETING**

MOTION: Mr. Trifone made a motion to accept the December 2, 2015 minutes.

MOVED: Mr. Duffy seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed 5 o 1 by those present with one being an abstention by Mr. O'Donnell because he was absent at the last meeting.

**COUNCIL LIAISON**

Mr. Talbot informed the Commission there has not been a meeting since December 10. He said the new Council has been seated, and he is staying as the P&R Liasion. Committee meetings have begun this week.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Mr. O'Donnell nominated Mr. Nankin as Chairman for the P&R Commission.

Mr. Duffy seconded the nomination.

Mr. Ceccolini asked if there were any other nominations three times then closed the nominations.

**MOTION:** Mr. O'Donnell made a motion that Jim Nankin be Chairman of the P&R Commission.

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

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

Mr. Ceccolini noted Mr. Nankin is the longest standing Chairman in Cheshire.

Mr. Nankin nominated Patrick Duffy for Vice Chairman of the P&R Commission.

Mr. Trifone seconded the nomination.

Mr. Ceccolini asked if there were any other nominations three times then closed the nominations.

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

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

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

Mr. O'Donnell nominated Paul Fracasse for Secretary of the P&R Commission.

Mr. Nankin seconded the nomination.

Mr. Ceccolini asked if there were any other nominations three times then closed the nominations.

**MOTION:** Mr. O'Donnell a motion to elect Paul Fracasse as the Secretary for the P&R Commission.

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

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

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

### Communications

Mr. Nankin did not have any communications to share but Mr. Ceccolini did.

Mr. Ceccolini handed out the Conflict of Interest document (attached) and said everyone should read the document and follow the document.

Mr. Ceccolini also said he had a communication regarding a request for a bench. The bench is requested to put on the northern part of the trail from Rich & Pam Kaczer. The bench is in

memory of Pam's brother, Ron Northrup, who passed away. She, her brother, and mother would walk to the grocery store (where Lora's Deli and Dunkin Donuts is) on West Main Street and the conductor on the passing trains would throw candy to her and her brother. She has many fond memories.

**MOTION:** Mr. Duffy made a motion to accept the request of a bench on the linear trail in memory of Ron Northrup from Rich & Pam Kaczer.

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

**VOTE:** All were in favor of the motion.

### Pool Discussion

Sheila Adams said everything is moving along nicely. The steel company is here working tonight and they are phenomenal. The company is Twin Mar.

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission every Tuesday morning there is an update meeting and Sheila has been in attendance of every meeting. Sheila said the Building Official is also present as is Public Works.

Mr. Ceccolini said the facility is supposed to be open in three weeks from this coming Monday. Staff is coming back but have to endure tests for blood, drug and physicals. January 25 is the opening date. Mr. Ceccolini said the head lifeguard and the Pool Coordinator have already started, they have been cleaning. They were laid off for 14 months.

Sheila said a lot of patching has to be done and an epoxy coating has to be done. The time frame to fill the pool is two to three days and it would take a week to get it to temperature. She said if we don't fill the pool by the 17<sup>th</sup> then we can't open by the 25<sup>th</sup>. She suggested to push the opening one week so as to not rush things. The garage doors would not be installed until the spring when it is warmer outside. Also in the spring is when the driveway would be done and the clean-up. Sheila pointed to the vents near the top of the ceiling and said they would release some humidity and the attic fans would run 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Mr. Ceccolini said the R-factor of the old facility was a two and the new facility it is a 20. Sheila added there are LED lights now which save money. Sheila also said the interior fabric still has to be installed and one garage door was eliminated for the electronic scoreboard across from where the people sit. This stops them from looking behind their shoulders. It will be across the pool.

Mr. O'Donnell asked if the ceiling is washable. Sheila replied yes.

Mr. Ceccolini said last week's snow was less than an inch and as it was snowing it was sliding off. The concern is if we have the right equipment in town and how safe is it for a guy to be managing it during a storm.

Sheila said the roof area of the facility is the size of an acre. Mr. Ceccolini said they don't want the snow to fall and freeze against the fabric.

Mr. Nankin asked if there are any walkways along the building. Mr. Ceccolini said they will be paved in the spring; there are millings approximately 13 feet wide.

Mr. Duffy said the east and west walls are angled down, how will the snow not build-up. Ms. Adams said the snow would have to be removed as soon as it gets on the facility.

Mr. Nankin urges that the facility open on February 8 and have a huge event that is fun-filled.

Mr. O'Donnell questioned the garage doors on the sides of the facility. Ms. Adams said they are 3x10x2 garage doors.

Mr. Duffy asked if this is Arizon's work? Ms. Adams said yes, tomorrow is the date they have for completion.

Mr. Duffy asked if we have a temporary C.O. from them. Ms. Adams said yes, because of the millings, no garage doors, etc. til spring; it is a temporary C.O.

Mr. Nankin suggested replacing the windows in the room we are sitting in because he does not feel the need for pressure treated anymore. He said he can't see how they are helping anymore.

Mr. Nowak talked about his proposal to the Commission (attached) that he and Ms. Bertoni put together. Mr. Nowak said the document is to help aid to build a better reputation for the pool. He said in general, people have a poor vision of this facility. The hope is to get more new people here to double that number.

Mr. Nowak said he has researched a lot of community pools. He discovered the town does not have its own website for the facility like other town's do. He said it would be a huge benefit to have a website for the pool.

Ms. Adams said the website is beyond our control. Mr. Ceccolini said it was talked about at other meetings and the town wants it to all be on the town website so they can control what goes on the website. Mr. Ceccolini said we can make it better through pictures, etc. on the town web site.

Mr. Ceccolini said he would like to share this document with Michael Milone because he has a meeting with him tomorrow. Mr. Nowak said yes, please do.

Mr. Duffy asked if we have a sponsorship for the pool. Ms. Adams said we have a gridiron club for the pool. She said there are things we can do. Families can be a sponsor and put their names on the starting blocks in the pool.

Mr. O'Donnell said February vacation is coming up, although shortened to having only Monday and Tuesday off. Ms. Adams said we usually do dollar days and are open from 12 PM to 3 PM.

Mr. Nowak said we would have to take advantage of the grand opening.

Ms. Adams said the February 8 date mentioned earlier is a pretty realistic date to open.

Mr. Nankin suggested having a soft opening like Mr. Nowak said for the February date and having a grand opening in the spring when its warmer. He said sponsors are a good idea for the starting blocks.

Mr. Nankin said we would be foolish not to use this document that Mr. Nowak and Ms. Bertoni created.

Mr. Ceccolini said there are other concerns to consider as to who is going to run the concessions. Mr. O'Donnell suggested the Friends of the Pool or the pool parents should run it. Mr. Nankin suggested to have them bring in food trucks.

Ms. Adams said most facilities do this. P&R should get a percentage of what they bring in and that has not been done yet in Cheshire but in other towns it has.

Mr. Nankin referred to the proposal and said now we have an outline on the marketing.

Mr. Nowak said he would like this Commission to be included. There are a lot of discussions on the parent's group for the other sports in Town.

Ms. Adams said the group of parents are very open to this idea.

Mr. Nowak said he's willing to donate press releases, news stations, etc. He also said he would volunteer to organize the grand opening.

Mr. Talbot suggested as Mr. Nankin did, a ribbon cutting on February 8 and the grand opening in the spring.

Mr. Ceccolini said the Council meets next Thursday night regarding the score board and a few other things.

Rec Person of the Year

MOTION: Mr. Ceccolini made a motion to have the award given to John DiGorgi of All Star Electric from Cheshire.

MOVED: Mr. Duffy seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Mr. Nankin told Mr. Ceccolini to have him present for the February meeting.

**BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION**

Mr. O'Donnell said eight more trees would be planted along Route 10 in the spring. They will get rid of the crab apples then.

Mr. O'Donnell said in the Spring they will dig up the day lillies at St. Bridgett's and give them to P&R to plant where they want to plant them.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dog Park

Mr. Ceccolini said the millings are being installed for the pathway up to the gazebo. The permanent sign was installed and was created by an Eagle Scout.

Parks Update

Mr. Ceccolini said the trail was paved for West Main Street and will be finished in the spring. It is currently closed and will be until the spring. He said the picnic tables arrived today and the benches would be ordered in the spring. The trail is approximately 12 feet wide. Mr. Ceccolini said the company has asked for an extension so they can finish by May. The last piece is in 2017 from Cornwall Avenue to West Main Street which also includes the board walk and the bathrooms.

In Cheshire the trail is approximately eight miles long. Mr. Ceccolini said Kevin is replacing two of the posts that rotted out; which are cedar. The Farmington Canal sign has been repainted.

Mr. Ceccolini said the winter blitz is happening now when the guys help out PW. There has been painting at Arts Place and the fire house.

Recreation Update

Mr. Ceccolini said basketball programs are great and the programs are picking back up again. Activities start next week.

Mr. O'Donnell asked if there are cameras at the linear path. Mr. Ceccolini replied there are cameras in the parking lot.

**COMMISSIONER'S FORUM**

Mr. Fracasse said the pool facility looks good and he is impressed. He is happy to see it finally happening.

Mr. Duffy thanked Mr. Nowak and Ms. Bertoni for all their work on the proposal. The facility looks good.

Mr. O'Donnell wished everyone a happy new year. He said the pool looks great and is looking forward to the opening. He told Mr. Nowak not to give up what he's doing.

Mr. Nowak wanted to thank everyone for their kind words. Happy new year and the facility is impressive. He said he thought the bubble was cool but this is impressive.

Mr. Trifone said he is excited to have the pool back. He said there is a lot of opportunity to make money when it is up and going. He offered to help out with any opening.

Mr. Nankin thanked Mr. Nowak and Ms. Bertoni for their work. He told Mr. Nowak not to get discouraged. He added this is a great facility, let's not think small.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

MOVED: Mr. Duffy seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion was passed unanimously by those present. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Attest:

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Claudia J. Baron, Clerk  
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