

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MAY JUNE 1, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M
AT THE YOUTH CENTER, CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT

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

Absent: Dan Nowak

Staff Present: Bob Ceccolini

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 MAY MEETING

MOTION: Mr. Duffy made a motion to accept the May, 2016 minutes with corrections.

MOVED: Mr. Fracasse seconded the motion.

The following corrections were made:

Page 2: 3rd paragraph down; the sentence reads "The non-resident is \$170 a year." It should read "*The senior non-resident is \$170 a year.*"

Page 3: The first paragraph, last sentence reads "The doors would go down during the day and go back up at night." It should read: "*The doors would go up during the day and down at night.*"

Page 3: 7th paragraph down; the first sentence reads "Ms. Bertoni said her and Mr. Nowak talked about fundraising in their report." It should read: "*Ms. Bertoni said she and Mr. Nowak talked about fundraising in their report.*:"

Page 3: Under Tobacco Free Parks; the first sentence reads "Mr. Ceccolini said the town is talking about an Ordinance Subcommittee meeting which would probably start in the month of May." It should read: "*Mr. Ceccolini said the town is talking about presenting the tobacco free park to the Ordinance Subcommittee meeting which would probably start in the month of May.*"

Page 5: 1st paragraph change the word Hawks System to *Hawk System*.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present with one abstention by Mr. O'Donnell who was not present at last month's meeting.

COUNCIL LIAISON

Mr. Talbot was absent for the meeting. No report given.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Communications

Mr. Nankin said he has a request from Debra Giambra who wants to donate a bench. She had a friend that used the rail and he recently passed; he was 34 years old. His name was Brandon.

Mr. Ceccolini said the bench would be placed on the new part of the trail.

MOTION: Mr. Duffy made a motion to accept the request for a bench from Debra Giambra for her friend, Brandon.

MOVED: Mr. Fracasse seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Pool Discussion

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission they are opening the doors on a daily basis at the facility. People are using the pool and loving it. Mr. Ceccolini said people go into the shade and the kiddie pool is also working.

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission in the capital budget for next year they are requesting a bocce court and a sand volleyball court. He said Sheila would also like a berm and a slide for the pool.

Mr. Nankin questioned if a slide would be difficult during a meet. Mr. Ceccolini replied it would not be a problem because it would be at the end of the pool and has to be in between the starting blocks.

Mr. Duffy suggested checking into the liquidation sale that would be happening soon at Co Co Keys.

Mr. Nankin asked if there have been any complaints about putting the doors up in the morning. Mr. Ceccolini replied no, it is not much of an effort. Mr. Ceccolini added the pool is going well as well as the staff at the pool.

Mr. Ceccolini added for some meets the facility is closed for part of the day.

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Tobacco Free Parks

Mr. Ceccolini said the Council decided not to discuss it because he was not at their meeting.

Mr. Nankin added it includes vapors too.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

Mr. O'Donnell said the Beautification Commission wants the pear tree in front of the Yellow House removed as they are putting up replacement trees.

Mr. O'Donnell said Todd is coming from Brookside for the next seven trees and would be here June 7th. He would water them for a year. The trees are American London Plane trees.

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission there could be another gazebo at the dog park as an Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Trifone arrived at 7:35 P.M.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Ceccolini said the parade was nice on Sunday. The duration was 1.5 to 2 hours to complete. People left early because it was too hot. He said General Formica was in the parade and Cheshire has an active group of veterans.

Mr. Ceccolini said the fence by the DD and 7-11 on Route 10 with buntings and flags were decorated by P&R.

Mr. Ceccolini discussed the linear trail and said the Hawk System is not completed yet. All the pieces are to arrive within a week. The arm for the system was not put in a legitimate place so MMI figured out the best place. The Town will not open the linear trail until the Hawk System

is running. West Johnson Avenue has been paved and we are one year away from having a complete trail.

Mr. Duffy said he wonders if the state layoffs would affect it. Mr. Nankin replied it could affect it but the money has been bonded and allocated for it.

Parks Update

Mr. Ceccolini talked about Mixville to the Commission. He said they started the gate guards. They have one college kid and the two high school kids have not started yet. People can buy their passes online and can even show the receipt from your phone to the attendants to get in.

Mr. Duffy asked how does P&R know if they are Cheshire residents if they buy them online. Mr. Ceccolini responded they have to show their ID.

The park is open from 10:00 A.M to 8:00 P.M.

Mr. Nankin asked if P&R is mixing the passes with the pool and Mixville. Mr. Ceccolini replied no, we don't do that anymore.

Mr. Ceccolini said we are in good shape, all the kids have returned from college and there are two new guys on the FT crew. He said Tony DiDomizio is beautifying all the parks and Dave Rochford is doing nice things down at Mixville. He has planted 100 small pines on the other side of the pond.

Mr. Ceccolini said the testing at Bartlem Park was completed and found to be deficient in calcium. They are putting silica which is about \$8,000. There is another treatment in June for fertilizer and they guys are trying to get the irrigation system going.

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission an item for the fall referendum is the purchase of Mr. Chapman's farm.

Recreation Update

Mr. Ceccolini said they flyers have been mailed and the summer camps will begin when school has ended.

Budget Update

Mr. Ceccolini said the capital budget will be submitted. The renovation of the tennis courts is going to be June 13th or 14th and they would be shut down for six to eight weeks.

Mr. Ceccolini said in the budget he is asking that bathrooms be replaced in all the parks. They are at least 25 years old. At Quinnipiac and Bartlem more bathroom stalls would be added and MacNamara would be left alone. Lock 12 are very old and Cheshire Park are inadequate. Quinnipiac Park would have four bathrooms added for the women and two for the men. They would be the non-water tanks; no toilets flushing and no odor. He said he has heard they work very well.

Mr. Ceccolini said P&R is also asking for a pick-up truck this year.

Mr. Ceccolini said Elizabeth is back from maternity leave. Nick Palladino from Springfield College is here; he's our intern. We have good staff this year.

COMMISSIONER'S FORUM

Mr. Fracasse asked if there are any summer concerts. Mr. Ceccolini said three bands are locked in now. July 22nd is the first night. There are two in July and two in August. The weekend of the 16th is the concert and the carnival.

Mr. Fracasse said good job on the parade and he enjoyed it.

Mr. Duffy thanked Ms. Bertoni for the treats.

Mr. Trifone thanked the crew for the parade, great job.

Mr. O'Donnell asked how many people were at the parade. The crowd was huge. He said he was driving the Lights of Hope truck.

Ms. Bertoni wished everyone a happy 4th of July.

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 8:10 PM.

Attest:

Claudia J. Baron, Clerk

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