

MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 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 Dan Nowak

Absent: Karen Bertoni

Staff Present: Bob Ceccolini

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. Nankin made a motion to accept the September, 2016 minutes with the following changes:

Page 1: In the title, *Wedndesday* is spelled incorrectly. It should read: **Wednesday**.

Page 1: Under Call to Order: Mr. *Narkin* should read **Mr. Nankin**.

Page 1: Bottom paragraph, under Communications: Mr. *Ceccolino* should read Mr. **Ceccolini**. Also in that paragraph, last line, it states "*The director that is he received 3-4 requests for more benches*" should read: "The director **said** that he received 3-4 requests for more benches."

Page 2: Under Pool Discussion, 2nd paragraph: It reads: Mr. Glen Root, life guard left, and was replaced by former intern, and newly *highly* town employee Nick Paladino. Replace the word *highly* with **hired**.

Page 2: 3rd paragraph down, 1st sentence reads Mr. Ceccolini stated that pool parking lot needs to remain open for other events". The sentence should read: Mr. Ceccolini stated that **the** pool parking lot needs to remain open for other events.

Same page and paragraph, 3rd sentence down *about protecting equipment and the town pool*. This sentence should be removed from the minutes.

Page 2: 4th paragraph down, also under Pool Discussion: 2nd sentence reads, “*Mr. Ceccolini in-house landscaping and more equipment is on his “wish list”*”. This should have a word inserted to read “Mr. Ceccolini **stated** in-house landscaping and more equipment is on his “wish list””.

Page 2, last paragraph reads *Tennis courts a ready, but not all fencing is completed. Mr. Ceccolini and Mr. Trifone talked about the issue of fencing and barbed wire at the tennis court.* Insert **are** for a and remove *and barbed wire* from the sentence. The new sentence should read: Tennis courts **are** ready, but not all fencing is completed. Mr. Ceccolini and Mr. Trifone talked about the issue of fencing at the tennis court.

Page 3: Under Beautification Commission, first sentence reads *Mr. O’Donnell explained that planter’s need to be removed by Hawk street (West Main Street).* It should read: Mr. O’Donnell explained that **planters** need to be removed by the **Hawke system** (West Main Street).

Page 3, 3rd paragraph, last sentence: Remove the apostrophe on the word *its*’ and leave as **its**.

Page 3, under Director’s Report, Parks Update, 1st sentence reads: “Mr. Narkin remarked about the Town’s dog park is constantly crowded.” Replace it to say Mr. **Nankin** remarked **that** the Town’s dog park is constantly crowded.

Same section, 3rd sentence down, insert the word **in** so the sentence reads as: The guards did a great job of protecting the parks and keeping things in order.

Page 3, under Budget Updates, 1st sentence reads: *Mr. Ceccolini explained that budget was approved for one new pickup truck, fixing basketball courts and upgrading parks bathrooms.*” Insert the words the capital so the sentence reads: Mr. Ceccolini explained that **the** capital budget was approved for one new pick-up truck, fixing basketball courts and upgrading parks bathrooms.

Page 3, same subject, 4th paragraph down; replace *Narkin* for **Nankin**.

Page 4, under Commissioner’s Forum, 2nd paragraph, the sentence reads: Emphasis was placed on Kevin’s work ethic and how he always went above a call of duty.” Replace *a call of duty* with **the call of duty**.

Page 4, 5th paragraph down; first sentence; replace *Hawks system* with **Hawke system**.

MOVED: Mr. Duffy seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

COUNCIL LIAISON

Mr. Talbot told the Commission the capital budget passed and everything is covered. He said the town got the go ahead to plan to purchase the Chapman property that could be used for additional recreational purposes.

Mr. Talbot said the final environmental testing should be completed in about a week and a half (final reports). The preliminary testing showed no problems on the property.

Mr. Talbot spoke of possibly moving the tennis courts in the future. Mr. Ceccolli replied the tennis courts had to be redone anyway.

Mr. O'Donnell raised the question of cost for lights for the tennis courts. The Commission discussed what this would cost the town.

Mr. Ceccolini said people love the tennis courts; other people from other towns come here to see it.

Mr. Ceccolini discussed how many parking spaces would be needed if the tennis courts were removed. There are 150 cars at Bartlem; 100 spaces are rented by the school and 50 spaces are rented by P&R. He said he doesn't think there would be enough parking spaces where the courts are now to add 150 spaces.

Mr. Trifone added 150 spaces is a lot of spaces in that area.

Mr. Ceccolini said 150 spaces takes care of every kid from the beginning of the school year to the end of the school year. The fee starts at \$125; in December the price drops and again in March the price drops. This accommodates students who get their licenses during the school year.

Mr. Nowak stated that kids still have to cross for sports, etc. Mr. Ceccolini replied it would be easier to have the parking at the high school because Route 10 comes to a crawl with the kids pushing the crosswalk button to cross frequently.

Mr. Trifone added they "clinic" the kids how to cross the street.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Communications

Mr. Nankin shared a communication he had. He said the Lions Club approved a purchase and installation for a bench on the new linear trail near Jarvis Street.

MOTION: Mr. Duffy made a motion to approve the bench for the Lion's Club on the new section of the linear trail near Jarvis Street.

MOVED: Mr. Trifone seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present. All were in favor.

Mr. Ceccolini also had a request for a bench from Philip Alteri of Country Lumber near the Dalton stretch of the trail.

MOTION: Mr. Duffy made a motion to approve the purchase of a bench at the Dalton piece of the trail for the Altieri family.

MOVED: Mr. Nowak seconded the motion.

Mr. Trifone **AMENDED** the motion for the bench to be installed on that piece near the Dalton property.

VOTE: The vote passed unanimously by those present.

Mr. Ceccolini noted the bench is ordered now and put aside in storage until that particular area is completed. Anyone can purchase ahead and benches can be put in storage for years, if requested, if they are waiting for a particular area.

Pool Discussion

Mr. Ceccolini discussed figures that Sheila Adams brought in for the facility this fiscal year. He added in the winter she gets high school rentals and Y rentals.

Mr. Trifone said he would like to hold the trials and finals for their league at the pool.

Mr. Nowak questioned if more seating would be required.

Mr. Trifone replied yes, more seating is required to hold the big events.

Mr. Duffy asked if portable seating could be used. Ms. Ceccolini replied that they could probably do that.

Mr. O'Donnell asked how many days the trials take for completion. Mr. Nowak responded one or two days.

Mr. Duffy questioned if we could rent the seats and have that company bring the seats into the facility. Mr. Ceccolini said it may work to bring a few sets into the facility.

Mr. Ceccolini said the pool staff is good, everyone is working hard.

Mr. Nankin asked Mr. Trifone if there is any place that rents folding bleachers. Mr. Trifone is going to look into this.

Mr. O'Donnell asked how many spectators can we fit in the facility. Mr. Ceccolini replied that over 500 people would fit and we have a sprinkler system installed. He said the number of people are limited to the number of toilets at the facility.

Mr. Ceccolini said Sheila would like bleachers that fold in against the wall. They would have to figure out where to put things.

Mr. Nowak commented that coaches love swimming in the pool.

Tobacco Free Parks

Mr. Talbot said the Town is writing an ordinance for the review of the tobacco free parks.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

Mr. O'Donnell said there are three items he is going to discuss:

1. 300 to 400 daffodil bulbs will be planted in the parklet up by St. Peter's church to replace the ones that died.
2. Mr. O'Donnell asked Mr. Ceccolini about the lights on Ives Corner. Mr. Ceccolini replied that he has not heard a report from the guys on it.
3. The tree and the stump at the Yellow House has to be removed.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Parks Update

Mr. Ceccolini said fields at Quinnipiac are closed to be worked on and the Soccer Club will finance that. Two fields at Bartlem Park are shut down to over seed.

Mr. Ceccolini said the irrigation system was all fixed until the Fall Festival when a tent went through one of the lines. He said the guys are learning from Kevin what to do before he leaves P&R.

Mr. Ceccolini informed the Commission the laser light show was not a big hit in place of the fireworks.

Mr. Ceccolini said the PBC (Public Building Commission) approved the landscaping quote from Brookside.

Mr. Ceccolini said Brian is checking the debris along the outside of the pool.

Mr. Ceccolini said there were three or four trees in a pond along the trail. He and Kevin removed the tires from the pond with a canoe.

Mr. Ceccolini said they are going on Friday morning to mark the leaning trees on the trail before they fall on someone or go across the trail.

Recreation Update

Mr. Ceccolini said baseball and soccer are going good. He noted this is one of the best crews they have ever had.

Mr. Ceccolini said the parks programs start now and the end of October; basketball sign-ups have started.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL

MOTION: Mr. O'Donnell made a motion for the Commission to enter Executive Session at 7:48 P.M.

MOVED: Mr. Fracasse seconded the motion.

VOTE: The vote passed unanimously by those present.

MOTION: Mr. Nankin made a motion for the Commission to end Executive Session at 8:10 P.M.

MOVED: Mr. Duffy seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously by those present.

COMMISSIONER'S FORUM

Mr. Fracasse said he has received a lot of negative comments regarding the laser light show. He noted it was too bad it was not a hit because it was a well-attended event.

Mr. Ceccolini said the town wants to push the Fall Festival a weekend after the weekend it was this year. It was always set at this date going around the installation of the bubble. Next year it would be September 15-16, 2017.

Mr. Fracasse said people ask him for more summer concerts.

Mr. O'Donnell thanked Bob and Jim for the nice picnic and thanks the crew for the Fall Festival.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Fracasse made a motion to adjourn.

MOVED: Mr. O'Donnell seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion was passed unanimously by those present. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Attest:

Claudia J. Baron, Clerk
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