

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **SOMERSET COUNTY PARK COMMISSION** held Thursday, September 20, 2012 at 5:30 PM at the Somerset County Park Commission Headquarters, 355 Milltown Road, Bridgewater, NJ.

"In accordance with Public Law Chapter 231, the open public meeting notice requirements have been satisfied whereby the starting time and place of this meeting have been filed with a county newspaper and the County Clerk and posted in a public information area in this office."

President Fuerst called the meeting to order.

**PRESENT**

Paul Consiglio  
William Crosby  
Steven Fuerst  
Walter Hansen  
Joanne Jaeger  
Christopher Paladino  
Gary Walsh  
Patrick Scaglione, Freeholder Liaison

**ABSENT**

Dale Florio  
Dot Paluck

Other staff members present were:

Raymond Brown, Director  
Joanne Steinruck, Executive Assistant  
Tom Boccino, Principal Planner/Land Acq.  
Dave Dendler, Manager, Park Rangers  
Pierce Frauenheim, Deputy Dir. Park Maint.  
Don Korbobo, Property Mgmt. Coordinator  
Stuart Lederman, Counsel  
Dan Livak, Deputy Dir. Business Admin.  
Darrell Marcinek, Director Golf Maint.

Margie Margentino, Manager Stable  
Alex Mathew, Manager Info. Mgmt.  
Karren Newman, Manager Recreation  
Bob Ransone, Director, Golf Mgmt.  
Cathy Schrein, Manager, Envir. Science  
Adam Slutsky, Principal Engineer  
Cindie Sullivan, Deputy Director  
Dina Trunzo, Manager TR  
Donna Van Deursen, Manager HR

Also in attendance: Brian Newman, Yvonne Childress, and Rich Reitman

**OPEN MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comment from the public.

**SERVICE AWARDS**

President Fuerst presented five year service awards to Jeffrey Meyer and Umberto Pecoraro. A ten year service award was presented to Lillian Viscione, a 15 year service award to Donna Van Deursen, and 25 year service awards to Kurt Bender and Dave Dendler.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Walsh, Chair of the Committee, introduced Bob Swisher of Suplee, Clooney and Company. Mr. Swisher stated that during the audit there was one minor

finding regarding inventory which has been corrected. Commissioner Walsh reported that the Audit Committee has reviewed the report and recommends approval.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Brown submitted a report for the months of July and August 2012.

### **PRESENTATION**

Tom Boccino discussed the proposed next phase of the Raritan River Greenway Trail. The development of the Greenway was discussed years ago and in 2000 a grant was received from the Department of Transportation to develop a two and a half mile section for a bike trail. Currently there is a path from Duke Island head gates to the Hunt Bridge. Within the last several years the County has acquired more acreage along the Raritan River. Another grant was given by the DOT which extended the trail from Bridge Street to Peters Brook. This section is a half mile and is currently under construction. The next segment of the trail will be from Route 206 to Orlando Drive in Raritan which is approximately one mile. An application for a grant from the DOT will be submitted. The trail would be three to four miles when connected. Once key property acquisitions are made, the trail can be developed eastward to the Torpey Complex. Raritan Borough officials have been working with Rutgers on plans for the redevelopment of Orlando Drive and the County has been involved to coordinate the bikeway through that area.

### **COMMISSIONER CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Right of Entry Agreements for Sourland Preserve and Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space.
2. Township of Warren requesting permission to use county-owned land for hunting by the Blue Ridge Sportsman Club.
3. Letter from Bernards Township requesting use of property for the 2012-2013 deer management program.
4. Township of Warren requesting maintenance is done on the Duderstadt property.
5. 2011 Report of Audit from Suplee Clooney & Company.
6. Complaint from a Far Hills resident regarding the opening of an additional trail at Natirar.
7. Letter of disappointment with the cancelling of the EEC's White Water Challenge trip.
8. Letter of concern regarding the cancelling of the EEC's White Water Challenge trip and reduction of weekend trips.
9. Letter from Price Auto Wreckers regarding the sale of their property and inquiring as to what environmental issues they will be responsible for in order to move forward with the sale.
10. Letter from Becky Rountree of the WAPL Committee in Florida thanking the Park Commission for the good job hosting the WAPL.
11. Memo from Somerset County Park Foundation regarding grants that were authorized to be given to the Somerset County Park Commission.
12. Letter from Township of Bridgewater regarding the restoration of the Washington Valley Park reservoir and park.
13. Letter from Freeholder Director Walsh commending and thanking the Park Commission for another excellent job on the 4-H Fair.

14. Letter from Freeholder Director Walsh thanking Karren Newman for the donation of two sets of Leisure Pursuit cards for the drawing at the 4-H Fair.
15. License Agreement for Skillman Park.
16. Letter from the Head Teacher of the Middlesex Department of Corrections and Youth Services thanking Naturalist Vanessa Darras for providing the Pondering Life program.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **RESOLUTIONS/MINUTES**

The following resolutions/minutes were MOVED BY: Commissioner Crosby; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Walsh, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Florio and Paluck.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

President Fuerst called for the approval of the minutes of the last regular meeting held July 19, 2012.

### **Resolution R12-051 - Accepting the Audit Report**

Resolution recommends accepting Suplee, Clooney & Company auditor's letter dated July 26, 2012 and the audit report for the year ended December 31, 2011.

### **Resolution R12-052 – Payment of Claims**

Resolution authorizing payment of bills for \$1,805,636.97 comprising of check numbers 218696-218725, 219151-219168, 220163-220180, 220689-220710, 218726-218799, 218998-219065, 219314-219382, 219690-219748, 220181-22051, 220492-220533, 220711-220755, 221173-221233, and 221542-221617.

### **Resolution R12-053 – Award of Contract for Fabrication and Delivery of 43 High Density Signs**

Resolution awards a contract to Forman Signs. The cost is not to exceed \$68,826.00.

### **Resolution R12-054 – Execution and Delivery of that Certain Amendment and Consent No. 1 by this Participating Series 2011 A Local Unit in Connection with Tranche II of the Somerset County Improvement Authority's Renewable Energy Program**

Resolution authorizes the execution and delivery of Consent No. 1. The amendment reflects the delays with the installation and the delay has no effect on the Somerset County Park Commission.

### **Resolution R12-055 – Licensing of Farm Rights to 12 Parcels**

Resolution awards a licensing of Farm rights to Acorn Embryo, LLC for the Van Cleef North parcel; Beekman Homestead Farm, Inc. for the Thompson Hill/Van Cleef South/Thompson-Montgomery parcels; Mark W. Kirby for the Stahl Parcel; Laine Farms for the Daniel's parcel; Little Valley Stable for the Speiden parcel; Shane Doyle Farms for the Kanach River and Natirar parcels; T. P. Trezza Contracting, Inc. for the Trezza parcel; and Steve Zamek for the Burjan and Bibeau parcels.

**Resolution R12-056 – Award of County Co-Op Purchase of a Cushman Turbo Truckster**

Resolution awards a contract to Wilfred MacDonald, Inc. for the purchase of a 2012 Cushman Model 84056 4-Wheel Turf Truckster. The cost is not to exceed \$21,785.00.

**Resolution R12-057 – Award of County Co-Op Purchase of a Toro Reelmaster Fiveplex Fairway Mower**

Resolution awards a contract to Storr Tractor, Co. for the purchase of a 2012 Toro Reelmaster 5410-D Fiveplex Fairway Mower. The cost is not to exceed \$63,619.00.

**Resolution R12-058 – Award of County Co-Op Purchase of a Deckover Trailer with Beavertail and Options**

Resolution awards a contract to Harter Equipment, Inc. for the purchase of a 20 Ton Deckover Trailer with Beavertail and Options. The cost is not to exceed \$20,650.00.

**Resolution R12-059 – Award of County Co-Op Purchase of PVC Fence and Installation**

Resolution awards a contract to MRB Services, Inc. for the fencing at Green Knoll and Spooky Brook Golf Courses. The cost is not to exceed \$39,632.00.

**Resolution R12-060 – Authorizing Extraordinary and Unspecifiable Services Contract for Tee Time Marketing Services**

Resolution awards a contract to GolfNow.Com to provide tee time marketing services. The service is free and fills in tee times that are not otherwise utilized. In the past six months GolfNow has filled 7,035 rounds. The program attracts people from other states and the tee times are booked up to three days in advance. This service is also marketed on the Golf Channel. Bob Ransone will have access to their mailing list for future Commission e-mail blasts.

**Resolution R12-061 – Furnishing and Delivery Animal Feed and Supplements**

Resolution awards a contract to New Egypt Agway for grain, feed, and supplements. This bid was advertised twice and no bids were received so a contract was negotiated with New Egypt Agway. The cost is not to exceed \$149,055.00.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FINANCE/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

Commissioner Walsh, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the months of July and August 2012.

Dan Livak, Deputy Director/Business Administration reported that revenue is up more than nine percent compared to 2010 and 18 percent compared to 2011.

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

Commissioner Consiglio, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the months of July and August 2012.

Donna Van Deursen, Manager, Human Resources reported that the Park Commission is the recipient of the Platinum award for 2012 New Jersey Smart Workplaces. This award is given to employers who have developed and implemented innovative alternative commuting programs. The Park Commission was recognized for using electric golf carts among other initiatives. The RideWise newsletter is included in the new employee orientation packet, and bicycle safety courses are given to the Rangers and staff at Buck Garden.

### **LEISURE SERVICES**

Commissioner Jaeger, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the months of July and August 2012.

Cindie Sullivan, Deputy Director reported that it was a great summer. None of the summer concerts at Duke Island Park were cancelled or postponed due to weather. The text for the history book of the Park Commission has been submitted to a designer for the layout. The final draft of the ADA Transition Plan is being completed. The EEC, Therapeutic Recreation, and Stable camps all went well. The tennis and swimming lessons were filled to capacity. The USTA sponsored bus transportation and admission for 45 children and their parents to attend Arthur Ashe Kids Day at the Arthur Ashe Stadium on August 25. The Lipizzan performance was great and the County Caper had 200 people participate. The 1770's Festival will be held on October 7. Dina Trunzo has been invited to speak on inclusion at the World Leisure Services Congress in Italy at the end of September. The Park Foundation is creating a website which will be linked to the Somerset County Park Commission website.

### **GOLF MANAGEMENT**

Darrell Marcinek, Director of Golf Maintenance reported that the staff will begin aeration shortly.

Bob Ransone, Deputy Director Golf Management reported that the County Championships were played at Green Knoll last weekend. The Park Foundation has provided grants for the Junior Golf Program scholarships to seven children.

### **INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**

Commissioner Hansen, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the months of July and August 2012.

Alex Mathew, Manager, Information Management reported that work has been completed with the upgrade of the remote communication server. Work continues with installation of the data connections at Colonial Park from the Horticulture building to the Maintenance building and to the Horticulture white building.

### **VISITOR SERVICES**

Commissioner Crosby, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the months of July and August 2012.

Dave Dendler, Manager, Park Rangers reported that he has received a \$1,250.00 grant from Access Fund for the Adopt-A-Boulder event. Dave has the \$5,000.00 grant from

last year that was not used due to the event being cancelled because of the October snow storm. The Hawk Watch continues and this has been a great year for seeing hawks, eagles, and falcons.

### **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT**

Commissioner Crosby, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the months of July and August 2012.

Don Korbobo, Property Management Coordinator reported that the revenue for next year from farm and hunting licenses will be at least \$156,000.00. Expected farmland acquisitions and new hunting parcels will add additional revenue for 2013.

### **PLANNING AND LAND ACQUISITION**

Tom Boccino, Parks Section Principal Planner, Land Acquisition reported work continues on acquiring more land.

### **CAPITAL FACILITIES – CONSTRUCTION and ENGINEERING**

Commissioner Paladino, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the months of July and August 2012.

Adam Slutsky, Principal Engineer, reported that construction will begin shortly for the dredging and dam repair at Duck Pond and Mettlers Pond in Colonial Park. The construction continues on the Markota House log wall repairs. Natirar Elm Cottage/Gristmill repairs and restoration will be completed within a month. The Raritan River Greenway Bikeway Peters Brook connection is 50 percent completed. Demolition of five structures as part of open space property acquisitions continues. A dam will be removed from Skillman Park and the Richardson property parking lot will be cleared and graveled. The Howe Athletic Fields are under construction and will be seeded this fall. Construction is expected to be completed by the spring.

Commissioner Consiglio stressed his concern on the finances of maintaining all the properties that have recently been acquired, in addition to what is already being maintained.

Freeholder Scaglione reported that the Freeholders are aware that the Park Commission needs additional funds for the improvements to the recently acquired properties.

### **PARK MAINTENANCE & HORTICULTURE**

Commissioner Consiglio, Chair of the Committee submitted a report for the months of July and August 2012.

Pierce Frauenheim, Deputy Director Park Maintenance reported that the September 11 memorial at Quail Brook was a valuable reminder to park patrons as well as an education tool for young children using the playground. Shannon Fillmore and her friends did a wonderful job.

### **FREEHOLDER'S REPORT**

A September 11 memorial was created by a local Girl Scout at Quail Brook Park. She did a wonderful job and Freeholder Scaglione acknowledged the memorial was the first to be located within the county park system.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Director Brown requested the Commissioners try to attend the October 18 meeting at which time a photographer will be taking photographs of the Commissioners for the history book project.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business to report.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 p.m. was made by Commissioner Consiglio; seconded by Commissioner Hansen. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Walsh, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Florio and Paluck.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond A. Brown  
Director

Joanne Steinruck  
Executive Assistant