

MINUTES of a meeting of the **SOMERSET COUNTY PARK COMMISSION** held Thursday, August 15, 2013 at 8:00 AM 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
Helen Haines
Walter Hansen
Doug Ludwig
Dot Paluck
Patricia Walsh, Freeholder Liaison

ABSENT

Dale Florio
Christopher Paladino

Other staff members present were:

Raymond Brown, Director
Joanne Steinruck, Executive Assistant
James Avens, Manager Horticulture
Mike Ballow, Supervisor Park Maintenance
Kurt Bender, Acting Mgr. Environ. Science
Tom Boccino, Principal Planner/Land Acq.
Betsy Flanagan, Counsel
Pierce Frauenheim, Deputy Dir. Park Maint.
Don Korbobo, Property Mgmt. Coordinator
Dan Livak, Deputy Dir. Business Admin.

Matt Loper, Engineer
Darrell Marcinek, Director Golf Maint.
Margie Margentino, Manager Stable
Alex Mathew, Manager Info. Mgmt.
Brian Mundhenk, Park Section Engineer
Karren Newman, Manager Recreation
Bob Ransone, Director Golf Management
Cindie Sullivan, Deputy Director
Dina Trunzo, Manager TR
Donna Umgelter, Manager HR

Also in attendance: Yvonne Childress

OPEN MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Gail O'Brien updated the Commissioners regarding the off leash problem at Duke Island Park. She met with Dave Dendler at Duke Island Park and they discussed where some additional signs should be placed. Ms. O'Brien complimented Dave for being available.

Jim Koch, who is a longtime supporter of Washington Rock Park, expressed his concern regarding the lack of display of the STATE PARK in the Park Commission's 4H Fair tent on the first day of the fair. Mr. Koch stressed that Washington Rock Park is a historic site. President Fuerst confirmed that it is, in fact, a state park and was not able to be properly maintained. Mr. Koch suggested that the employees promote the park more. He stated that he has "worked" for 14 years to have the state transfer the Park to the Park Commission. Director Brown reported that an amended display was placed in the tent on

Thursday morning and that the Park Commission does not own the Park and is only responsible for maintaining the park. Freeholder Walsh suggested that the man hours worked on Washington Valley Park be added to the Park Commission's meeting packet.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

President Fuerst called for the approval of the minutes of the last regular meeting held July 18, 2013. MOVED BY: Commissioner Crosby; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Haines, Hansen, Ludwig, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Florio and Paladino.

APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT

Resolution R13-063 - Payment of Claims

Resolution authorizing payment of bills for \$993,933.14 comprising of check numbers 239149-239182, 239532-239560, 239567-239573, 239064-239148, 239459-239531, 239579-239640, and 240192-240289. MOVED BY: Commissioner Crosby; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Haines, Hansen, Ludwig, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Florio and Paladino.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Brown submitted a report for the month of July 2013.

COMMISSIONER CORRESPONDENCE

1. Resignation letter from Todd Scorzafava, member of the Somerset County Open Space Advisory Committee.
2. Letter from Township of Warren Administrator asking permission to use county-owned land for hunting by the Blue Ridge Sportsman Club.
3. Borough of Peapack and Gladstone asking permission to use Natirar for the deer culling program.
4. Request to be given a tour of Natirar in October from the daughter of a man that spent his childhood at Natirar.

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTIONS

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

Resolution R13-064 – Award of Contract for Tee Time Marketing Services

Resolution awards a contract to Golfnow.com for tee time marketing services pursuant to the Golf Channel Solutions Website Development and Marketing/Technology Agreement. This service is also marketed on the Golf Channel.

Resolution R13-065 – Renewal of License Agreement for Quail Brook Clubhouse

Resolution renews the License from September 1, 2013 through August 31, 2018. This is a five (5) year agreement with the Office on Aging for use of Quail Brook Clubhouse for the Office on Aging Nutrition Center.

Resolution R13-066 – Renewal of License Agreement for Warrenbrook Park Clubhouse

Resolution renews the License from September 1, 2013 through August 31, 2018. This is a five (5) year agreement with the Office on Aging for use of Warrenbrook Clubhouse for the Office on Aging Nutrition Center.

Resolution 13-067 - Award of Morris County Co-Op Contract for Purchase and Installation of Fencing

Resolutions awards a contract to E.B. Fence, LLC to install 960 linear feet of 6 foot high deer fencing at Gaiser Park, and to install 325 linear feet of assorted sizing green chain link fencing, 40 linear feet of 8 foot high green privacy slats, removal of 325 linear feet of old fencing, installation of 255 linear feet of assorted sizing high black chain link fencing, and installation of one 32 foot wide rectangular barrier gate. Gaiser Park (\$9,600.00), Torpey Complex (\$16,985.00), and North Branch Park (\$2,550.00) the cost is not to exceed \$29,135.00.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Dan Livak, Deputy Director/Business Administration reported that revenues are slightly more than the five year average, but below the 2010 and 2012 budgets. Director Brown reported that he has conferred with Commissioner Florio regarding the Commission's major new capital initiatives and Freeholder Walsh reported that a meeting for August 27 has been set up to discuss the issue of additional capital funding in the future.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Commissioner Consiglio, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of July 2013.

Donna Umgelter, Manager, Human Resources reported that the Park Commission has received the Ridewise Platinum Award for Outstanding Achievement in creating programs that provide and promote commuting options for employees. Seasonals are starting to leave for college.

LEISURE SERVICES

Commissioner Ludwig, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of July 2013.

Cindie Sullivan, Deputy Director reported that the Summer Concert Series had one concert cancelled in July but that it has been rescheduled for September 8 at 6:00 p.m. It is the Duprees. The Concert Series was a success so far with Ruthie Foster who performed blues and gospel; Louis Prima, Jr.; and Ken Navarro who performed jazz guitar. The history

book will be shipped the last week in August and is expected to be available at the September Park Commission meeting. Discussion on how to promote the book will be done at the next Park Foundation meeting.

Dina Trunzo, Manager Therapeutic Recreation reported that the Summer Adventure program will be completed after the sleep over tonight. Fall registration will be held on August 17. Adults will travel to the Poconos in September for a weekend at the Woodloch Resort.

Kurt Bender, Acting Manager, Environmental Science reported that the EEC camps end on August 16. The first Extreme Adventure trip was cancelled due to rain in five years. Kurt thanked Ray Brown for sharing the letter of support to the EEC with the Commissioners. The County Caper will be held August 24 and 25. Supervisor is preparing for scheduling requests for programs from school, Boy Scout, and Girl Scout groups.

Karren Newman, Manager Recreation reported that all lessons are coming to an end. The swimming and Green Knoll tennis lessons were full with a waiting list. Colonial Park tennis lessons had 20 participants in each session. Karren mentioned that anyone that has twitter can go into "Under the Tree" hash tag and it will bring you to the Park Commission twitter page.

Marge Margentino, Manager Stable reported that the Stable has two more weeks of summer workshop. Registration will be held next week. Rebel's Special Event will be held on August 18. The Stable is asking for donation of non-perishable food be donated to help restock the Somerset County Food Bank.

Commissioner Crosby thanked Cindie Sullivan and staff for the party held in Cathy Schrein's honor.

GOLF MANAGEMENT

Commissioner Paluck, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of July 2013.

Darrell Marcinek, Director of Golf Maintenance reported that the Quail Brook fencing damaged by Super Storm Sandy has been replaced and the Green Knoll wash down station is completed and Darrell thanked the Engineering staff. The station is used to wash the equipment and the water is reused. Darrell complimented his staff on how well the golf courses look.

Bob Ransone, Deputy Director Golf Management reported that the Junior Golf program was full with waiting lists and will be completed on August 30. Neshanic Valley hosted the US Women's Amateur Qualifier. Bob is hopeful to host another USGA event in the future. Commissioner Paluck reported that the golf courses are in great condition and thanked the staff. With the heat and rain we have had it is not easy to keep a golf course from getting turf diseases.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Commissioner Hansen, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of July 2013.

Alex Mathew, Manager, Information Management reported that last month the evaluation of the network speed issues by the County MIS Department and the current network equipment and performance by EPlus was completed. Alex is meeting with the County Purchasing Department to prepare a bid package for bidding on enhanced data lines. Staff is gathering information to replace the aging network hardware components. Staff is evaluating and identifying possible wireless connections at facility locations to reduce the monthly operating costs. Commissioner Hansen reported that the servers and internal equipment has been upgraded and the next step is to upgrade the external equipment which is a difficult process. Walt asked if he could give a ten minute report on the background of what is being done and explain why the cost is so much at the September Park Commission meeting.

VISITOR SERVICES

Commission Crosby, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of July 2013.

Dan Livak, in Dave Dendler's absence, reported that two vacant Ranger positions have been filled. Dave has been working with two volunteer groups on the Raritan River cleanup. Johnson Control will be doing a project at Colonial Park to replace old boardwalks. Johnson is donating \$1,000.00 to be used for the purchase of tools and equipment.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Commissioner Crosby, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of July 2013.

Don Korbobo, Property Management Coordinator reported that on August 20 bids will be heard for four farm parcels. Don has completed his portion of the Joint Insurance Fund renewal and the Park Commission has 258 insured structures.

PLANNING AND LAND ACQUISITION

Commissioner Haines, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of July 2013.

Tom Boccino, Parks Section Principal Planner, Land Acquisition reported that the first of two Thompson property closings in Hillsborough have been completed. To date 55 acres of the Thompson property has been acquired and the remaining 289 acres will be acquired within the next couple of weeks. Tom is in the process of working with the New Jersey Conservation Foundation to draft a Management Agreement for the Foundation to manage the property and work with the County to develop any future trails on the property.

CAPITAL FACILITIES – CONSTRUCTION and ENGINEERING

Commissioner Paladino, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of July 2013.

Matt Loper introduced Brian Mundhenk to the Commissioners. Brian formerly worked for the Bridge Department at the County.

Brian Mundhenk, Park Section Engineer, reported that he is familiarizing himself with the Park Commission facilities. The contract has been awarded for the pump station at the Stable, the Buck Garden pond dredging and dam repairs will be awarded soon, and the Ross Farm driveway widening will also be awarded shortly. The Pine Grove pavilion at Colonial Park will go out to bid at the end of August.

PARK MAINTENANCE & HORTICULTURE

Commissioner Consiglio, Chair of the Committee submitted a report for the month of July 2013.

Jim Avens, Manager Horticulture reported that the Garden Party in the Perennial Garden at Colonial Park was held on July 20. Despite the warm weather the event went well with more than 200 people in attendance. Bruce Crawford, Director of the Rutgers Gardens gave a talk on new perennials. Buck Garden will be featured in a Horticulture Magazine article next spring. Garden writer Tovah Martin is writing the article and it will feature photographs by nationally recognized garden photographer Rob Cardillo.

Mike Ballow, Manager Park Maintenance reported that the fairgrounds at North Branch Park are being cleaned after the 4H Fair.

Pierce Frauenheim, Deputy Director Park Maintenance thanked Darrell for his assistance with the Colonial Park Howe Complex fields. Pierce is working with a group of 20 Princeton University students who will be painting the Quail Brook Senior Center and Clubhouse. The Girl Scout troop continues to clean the grave yard in Skillman Park. Manville has donated a garbage truck and light towers to assist us with the 4H Fair to park cars. Trail cleaning continues with the Rangers. Commissioner Consiglio thanked the staff on a great job with managing the fair.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

No report this month.

FREEHOLDER'S REPORT

Freeholder Walsh complimented the staff on a great job at the 4H Fair. Pat is also looking forward to the capital budgeting discussion with the Freeholders.

OLD BUSINESS

No report this month.

NEW BUSINESS

Ray reported that he and Tom Boccino will be meeting with representatives of the Sourland Conservancy. The group would like to promote a more aggressive have deer culling program in the Sourland Mountain Preserve. Ray is concerned about open public hunting in the 13,000 acre preserve but indicated he and Tom are happy to work with the group to discuss options.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 a.m. was made by Commissioner Crosby; seconded by Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Haines, Hansen, Ludwig, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Florio and Paladino.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond A. Brown
Director

Joanne Steinruck
Executive Assistant