

MINUTES of a meeting of the **SOMERSET COUNTY PARK COMMISSION** held Thursday, October 15, 2015 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 DiFrancesco called the meeting to order.

PRESENT

Paul Consiglio
William Crosby
Donald DiFrancesco
Jim Leonard
Dot Paluck
Patricia Walsh, Freeholder Liaison

ABSENT

Helen Haines
Doug Ludwig
Kevin McCallen
Christopher Paladino

Staff members present were:

Raymond Brown, Director
Jim Avens, Manager Horticulture
Tom Boccino, Principal Planner/Land Acq.
Chester Czaplicki Fleet Manager
Dave Dendler, Manager Park Rangers
Betsy Flanagan, Counsel
Pierce Frauenheim, Deputy Dir. Park Maint.
Dan Livak, Deputy Dir. Business Admin.

Darrell Marcinek, Director Golf Maint.
Alex Mathew, Manager Info. Mgmt.
Brian Mundhenk, Park Section Engineer
Bob Ransone, Director Golf Mgmt.
Cindie Sullivan, Deputy Director
Dina Trunzo, Manager TR
Donna Umgelter, Manager HR

Also in attendance: Chris Hart and Rich Reitman

OPEN MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No comment from the public.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

President DiFrancesco called for the approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held September 17, 2015. MOVED BY: Commissioner Crosby; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Leonard, Paluck, and President DiFrancesco. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Haines, Ludwig, McCallen, and Paladino.

APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT

Resolution R15-076 – Payment of Claims

Resolution authorizing payment of bills for \$1,121,663.06 comprising of check numbers 3822-3838, 3890-3906, 3774-3821, 3839-3889, 3907, 3915-3965, and 3966-4027.

MOVED BY: Commissioner Crosby; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Leonard, Paluck, and President DiFrancesco. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Haines, Ludwig, McCallen, and Paladino.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A report was submitted for the month of September 2015.

Resolution R15-077 – Congratulations to Somerset Patriots

Resolution congratulates the Patriots on the 2015 Atlantic League Championship.

MOVED BY: Commissioner Crosby; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Leonard, Paluck, and President DiFrancesco. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Haines, Ludwig, McCallen, and Paladino.

President DiFrancesco commented that the Patriots have been the most successful team in the state due to the support of the residents of Somerset County.

COMMISSIONER CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter of thanks from the 4-H Association for the support for the 2015 4-H Fair.
2. Letter from the Township of Bridgewater requesting the use of portions of Washington Valley Park for the 2015-2016 Deer Culling Program.
3. Letter from New Jersey Water Supply Authority regarding the publishing of their Schedule of Rates on January 4, 2016.
4. Letter from the neighbor of the Howe Athletic Complex asking for an update on the remediation and/or plans with the soccer balls going into their yard and headlights in their windows.
5. Note of thanks from the New Centre Dairy for allowing the 4-H Fair to be at North Branch Park.
6. Thank you note from VILLEtv for supporting them and providing cultural activities such as the Summer Concert Series. They especially thanked Cindie Sullivan and her staff.
7. Letter of appreciation to the Park Commission for its support of the Regional Center Partnership and thanks to Karen Behr and other staff members for the assistance provided with the use of the Park Commission meeting room.
8. E-mail thank you for the Private Hunter Pace at the Stable including a lady from England.

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTIONS

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

Resolution R15-078 – Award of Contract for Furnishing, Delivery, and Installation of Golfing Simulators

Resolution awards a contract to Ridge Capital Development, LLC. The cost is not to exceed \$125,784.00

Resolution R15-079 – Transfer of Appropriations

Resolution transfers appropriations.

Resolution R15-080 – Award of the Second and Final Year Contract for Tree Pruning and Removal Services

Resolution awards a contract to Tamke Tree Experts. \$205 per hour for three person crew and \$215 overtime for three person crew.

Resolution R15-081 – Award of State Contract for Purchase of a 2016 Chevrolet Express RWD 12 Passenger Van with Contract Options

Resolution awards a contract to Mall Chevrolet, Inc. The cost is not to exceed \$25,170.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

President DiFrancesco, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of September 2015.

Ray Brown reported that the weather has been good overall the past few months and this has helped with revenues.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Commissioner Consiglio, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of September 2015.

Donna Umgelter, Manager of Human Resources reported that a flu shot clinic will be held for the staff on October 20. The chainsaw safety training is being held this morning at Park headquarters and snow plow safety training will be held at the end of October. The Commission won the Ridewise Award for Commuter Friendly programs.

LEISURE SERVICES

A report was submitted for the month of September 2015.

Cindie Sullivan, Deputy Director reported that the Vietnam Wall Exhibit was at North Branch Park October 1 to October 4.

Commissioner Crosby thanked everyone that was involved with the exhibit. Ray commented that he was moved by a group of school children from Roselle who went around with a group of veterans. Freeholder Walsh thanked all involved. Commissioner Consiglio thanked Karren Newman for the growth of the Duke Island Walkers Program.

GOLF MANAGEMENT

Commissioner Paluck, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of September 2015.

Bob Ransone, Deputy Director Golf Management reported that Neshanic Valley Golf Course has been recertified as an Audubon Sanctuary. Aeration has been completed at all golf courses except Warrenbrook. Warrenbrook Golf Course will close on November 15, Quail Brook Golf Course will close in November, and Green Knoll Golf Course will close on December 31.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

A report was submitted for the month of September 2015.

VISITOR SERVICES

Commissioner Crosby, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of September 2015.

Dave Dendler, Manager Park Rangers reported that health fairs and trail work continues.

Commissioner Crosby thanked the Park Ranger staff for the Vietnam Wall Exhibit support.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Commissioner Crosby, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of September 2015.

PLANNING AND LAND ACQUISITION

A report was submitted for the month of September 2015.

Tom Boccino, Parks Section Principal Planner, Land Acquisition reported that the County closed on the Higgins property. The New Jersey Conservation Foundation is applying for a grant to acquire additional property owned by the Higgins family in Hunterdon County and Tom asked the Park Commission for a letter of support. Ray and the Commissioners agreed to send a letter supporting the acquisition.

CAPITAL FACILITIES – CONSTRUCTION and ENGINEERING

A report was submitted for the month of September 2015.

PARK MAINTENANCE & HORTICULTURE

Commissioner Consiglio, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of September 2015.

Jim Avens, Manager Horticulture reported that Buck Garden hosted a Dragonfly Display coordinated by Somerset County Master Gardeners. VIOS Channel One–Push for Pause television filmed a segment interviewing Buck Garden Interpretive Gardener Tricia

Scibilia. The Park Foundation paid for Horticulture Supervisor, Mark Inzano and Colonial Park Gardens Rosarian Shauna Moore to attend the American Rose Society National Convention in Syracuse, New York. Colonial Park gardens, with assistance from the New Jersey State Forest Fire Service, had a controlled burn of invasive multi-flora rose that was collected from the woodland areas surrounding Colonial Park. Multi-flora rose must be controlled around the rose garden due to the harboring of a mite vector for Rose Rosette, a serious pest of roses.

Pierce Frauenheim, Deputy Director thanked President DiFrancesco for visiting Buck Garden. The Park Commission will be hosting the Somerset County Cross Country Championships at Natirar. The driveway expansion at Natirar is underway. Special Projects is working with golf staff on the installation of the golf simulators. The Colonial Park dog show is concluded. Staff worked together through the rain, downed trees, and downed power lines during the show.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

No report this month.

FREEHOLDER'S REPORT

No report this month.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business to report.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business to report.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 a.m. was made by Commissioner Crosby and seconded by Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Leonard, Paluck, and President DiFrancesco. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Haines, Ludwig, McCallen, and Paladino.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond A. Brown
Director

Donna Umgelter
Manager Human Resources