

MINUTES of a meeting of the **SOMERSET COUNTY PARK COMMISSION** held Thursday, February 19, 2009 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
Steven Fuerst
Walter Hansen
Joanne Jaeger
Chris Paladino
Dot Paluck
Rick Fontana, Freeholder Liaison

ABSENT

John Gillen
Rose McConnell
Gary Walsh

Other staff members present were:

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

Darrell Marcinek, Director Golf Maint.
Marge Margentino, Manager, Stable
Alex Mathew, Manager, Info. Mgmt.
Karren Newman, Manager, Recreation
Bob Ransone, Director, Golf Operations
Cathy Schrein, Manager, Env. Science
Jim Shelley, Principal Engineer
Cindie Sullivan, Deputy Director
Dina Trunzo, Manager, TR

Also in attendance: Rich Reitman, Brian Newman, Dan O'Connell, and Allen Kurdyla

OPEN MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No comment from the public.

At this time President Fuerst introduced Allen Kurdyla to the Commission. Allen will be the designated OSAC citizen member. Director Brown commented that he has worked with Mr. Kurdyla when he was involved with the Bridgewater Open Space program, and they would share services when purchasing properties.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

President Fuerst called for the approval of the minutes of the last regular meeting held January 15, 2009. MOVED BY: Commissioner Consiglio; seconded by: Commissioner Jaeger. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Gillen, McConnell, and Walsh.

President Fuerst called for the approval of the minutes of the Work Session held on February 13, 2009. MOVED BY: Commissioner Paladino; seconded by: Commissioner Hansen. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Gillen, McConnell, and Walsh.

APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT

Resolution R09-015 - Payment of Claims

Resolution authorizing payment of bills for \$914,032.27 comprising of check numbers 152970-152974, 152264-152304, 152451-152514, 152975-153023, and 153260-153333. MOVED BY: Commissioner Jaeger; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Gillen, McConnell, and Walsh.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Brown submitted a report for the month of January 2009. Ray commented that at the March meeting he would like to have staff present the "State of the Commission" which will be in conjunction with the distribution of the annual report. This will give staff an opportunity to review the 2008 goals and discuss the 2009 goals. Ray also would like to reintroduce the community garden, as well as the Asian garden. A meeting was held this morning regarding the Asian garden and there is strong support from the Cultural Diversity Coalition of Somerset County. A field trip to similar gardens will be held in the near future.

COMMISSIONER CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter from the Diocese of Metuchen inviting the Park Commission to the 2009 Bread and Roses Ball to be held on April 25th and the Bridgewater Marriott.
2. Letter from the Montgomery Township Committee announcing that the OSAC has recommended to the Freeholders to proceed with planning and negotiations to establish a county park at the Skillman Village property.
3. Letter from a participant of the January 24th Maple Sugaring program. The participant wanted to thank Naturalist Rich Hoffman and Volunteer Rebecca Kotnosis for the wonderful presentation despite the cold weather.
4. Letter from a participant of Leadership Somerset thanking the Park Commission for providing the meeting room on January 21st.
5. Resolution recommending appointment of the Chair of the Environmental & Utilities Committee, or the Chairs' designee, and Matthew Kilpatrick will serve as the Board and Citizen Member to the Open Space Advisory Committee for 2009.
6. Letter from the President of the Somerset Signal Senders extending appreciation, especially to Karren Newman, Dave Dendler, and Emmet Henderson for the support and cooperation regarding the North Branch Park R/C flying field.

7. E-Mail from Somerville Borough asking for a designation to the Steering Committee for the Brownfield landfill. This property is contiguous to the Raritan River Greenway and also part of the Open Space Master Plan.

President Fuerst asked Ray to have a Resolution prepared to indicate the Park Commission's support. President Fuerst also reported that he and Commissioner Jaeger previously worked with a client on plans for this property.

REPORT OF TREASURER

Brian Newman provided the Treasurer's report having a book balance of \$572,580.47 as of January 2009.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Resolution R09-016 – Rescinding R08-092 and Purchase a 2009 Ford Cab Chassis

Resolution rescinds the purchase of a 2009 Ford Cab and Chassis from Ditchman Ford, due to the purchase not occurring prior to the cut off dates for ordering vehicles under the contract held by Ditchman Ford. Resolution authorizes purchase of said vehicle through Warnock Fleet not to exceed \$27,819.90. MOVED BY: Commissioner Jaeger; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Gillen, McConnell, and Walsh.

President Fuerst questioned why this did not occur prior to the cut off dates. Karren Newman reported that the chassis will be used for the sound equipment for the showmobile and not all chassis fit all cabs. The staff could not find a chassis to fit this particular cab in time of the cut off date.

Resolution R09-017 – Award of Contract to Supreme Conditioning Systems, Inc. and Stryker Heating, Cooling & Electric

Resolution awards a contract for the first year of a three year contract for preventative maintenance and repair of heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and boilers at all park locations. The resolution also awards Stryker Heating, Cooling & Electric as the secondary vendor. MOVED BY: Commissioner Jaeger; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Gillen, McConnell, and Walsh.

Resolution R09-018 – Accepting Donations from the Somerset County Park Foundation

Resolution accepts funding for the purchase of a new scoreboard for the recently completed multi-purpose synthetic turf athletic field at the Frank "Nap" Torpey Complex in Bridgewater; a component of the Commission's Raritan River Greenway (estimated value is \$16,500); sponsorship of the annual Autograph Sunday events at all 2009 Somerset Patriots Sunday home baseball games in support of the Commission's seasonal programming, services, and special events (estimated value is \$6,700); the purchase and installation of a new 40 foot flagpole at Duke Island Park in Bridgewater

Township (estimated value is \$2,750). MOVED BY: Commissioner Jaeger; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Gillen, McConnell, and Walsh.

ADMINISTRATION/HUMAN RESOURCES

Commissioner Consiglio, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of January 2009.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Commissioner Hansen, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of January 2009.

Alex Mathew, Manager, Information Management reported that the new tee time system has been implemented. The point of sale system has been installed at all golf courses, and Neshanic Valley, Learning Center, and Spooky Brook are running the system. The tee time system began last evening and will be on-line February 20th. This system is more detailed and reports can be run quicker and more efficiently.

VISITOR SERVICES

Dave Dendler, Manager Park Rangers reported that ice skating was held at Colonial Park for 8 days and in two nights there were 111 skaters. Duke Island had skating for three days. This is the first time three years in a row skating was able to be conducted. The Park Maintenance and Rangers worked together clearing the ice and patrolling the skaters.

Director Brown asked about skating at the Washington Valley Park reservoir and Dave reported that there is too much of a liability issue. The reservoir is too big and there is not enough staff to monitor it. February 28th Dave will be working with Doug Vornlocker on search and rescue. Dave is also working with Tom Boccino and Jim Shelley on getting all trails on GIS system. There is a meeting on February 23rd to work out the parameters. This needs to be done when there are no leaves on the trees so the process will take several winters to complete. The deer management program in Bridgewater is completed. Dave will be working with Stuart on licenses to protect the Park Commission during the deer management programs.

LEISURE SERVICES

Commissioner Jaeger, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of January 2009.

Cindie Sullivan, Deputy Director thanked everyone who was able to attend the Sponsorship Breakfast. At this point, almost all sponsors from last year are on board again this year. The Park Commission has received a \$5,000 grant from the NJ Council on the Arts for the Duke Island Concert Series. Grants have also been applied for through PSE&G and TD Bank. Cathy Schrein has been appointed to the Board of Directors of The Association of New Jersey Environmental Educators.

Cathy Schrein, Manager, Environmental Science reported that the Go Green Committee will be meeting with each department to get employees' input on how to conserve

energy. A suggestion has been to shut off computers at the end of the day and turn lights off when not using the room. Each month there will be a point promoted and it will be advertised in the employee Newsbreak. After all departments have had their input, the Committee will develop a report.

Commissioner Jaeger asked if capital project use “green” products. Jim Shelley reported that the EEC deck replacement is being done with environmentally friendly materials. Also the stream bank restoration project at Duke Island Park will be done with large stones instead of steel. The cost is more but the life cycle is longer. The EEC was solar powered and operated for 25 years.

Cathy Schrein also reported that the registration for summer programs was changed to requesting full payment when registering. There were several occasions where registrations were taken but then cancelled prior to the program. Currently at the EEC is the Junior Duck Stamp Competition Art Exhibit and drawings from Ridge High School students of insects.

Dina Trunzo, Manager, TR reported that camp brochures were mailed today. The Hotel Getaway is scheduled for the end of March. Registration was conducted earlier this month. All ten slots were filled with seven people on the waiting list. The TR staff will discuss how to accommodate those individuals at some other time in the year. The staff at Richard Hall Community Mental Health Center is interested in continuing with the shared services horticulture program. Lee Shahay is in the process of applying for a grant through the Garden Club of Somerset Hills. The program will be expanded to include adolescents with the focus being on a “seed to plate” program where they will grow a variety of herbs and vegetables. Proper nutrition will be emphasized. Additionally, with the expansion of facility, there will be an opportunity for the clients to create containers and planters that can be used to decorate the atrium.

Marge Margentino, Manager, Stable reported that the Stable staff has completed the first aid and CPR classes given by the Rangers. A clinic was held for the 4H on horse judging. The spring class list will be available next week. Marge distributed a flyer for events for private horses and riding events for the non-rider.

Karren Newman, Manager Recreation reported that winter Yoga has 44 participants and Cabin Fever Kids begins on February 21 at Duke Island Park. Registrations are being received for Warrenbrook pool and Mike Watson, the Green Knoll tennis instructor has returned from the USTA Quick Start Tennis Instructor Certification training. The County Administrator, Dick Williams along with representatives from county high schools, have asked Karren to host the county high school tennis championships at Green Knoll Tennis Center this year. Karren has also been asked to join the USTA Eastern Region Special Events Committee.

Resolution R09-019 – Award of Contract to Schaffer Pyrotechnics

Resolution awards contract for pyrotechnics for the July 4th display (\$19,000.00).
MOVED BY: Commissioner Jaeger; seconded by: Commissioner Paluck. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Gillen, McConnell, and Walsh.

Resolution R09-020 - Award of Contract to Josefa, Inc.

Resolution awards contract for the third and final year for ice cream concession for the Duke Island Park Concert Series, Fourth of July Family Festival, and drive-in movies. Josefa, Inc. pays the Park Commission \$1,500.00 for the right to sell ice cream. MOVED BY: Commissioner Jaeger; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Gillen, McConnell, and Walsh.

GOLF MANAGEMENT

Commissioner Paluck, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of January 2009.

Darrell Marcinek, Director Golf Maintenance reported that the staff has been working on winter projects. A bunker at Warrenbrook has been repaired and drainage installed at Spooky Brook. The tees have been expanded at Green Knoll on the par 3 and the tee boxes at Quail Brook have been reshaped. Staff is also working on expanding the lower driving range at Neshanic Valley. Aeration will begin on March 23rd.

Bob Ransone, Director Golf Operations reported that rounds of golf for the month of January were less than last year. Golf Staff manned two booths at the New Jersey Golf Show last weekend which gave them the opportunity to not only sell merchandise, but also promote all the golf courses. On March 7, registration for junior golf will be held. Commissioner Paluck recommended the golf staff put together a trip in July for juniors to go and watch the National Junior Championship being held at Trump National Golf Course. The Park Commission has accepted an invitation from the New Jersey State Golf Association to host a 2010 New Jersey State Open Championship qualifier at Neshanic Valley.

Resolution R09-021 – Golf Shop Resale Merchandise

Resolution authorizes a five year contract to Greg Norman Collection, Inc.; Cutter & Buck, Inc.; Drew & Rodgers, Inc.; Srixon Sports USA, Inc.; R J Shepherd Corporation; Gear For Sports; Callaway Golf; TRG Group; Nike Golf; American Dry Goods; Ping, Inc.–Karsten Golf, Inc.; Microvision Optical, Inc.; CMC Custom Gifts, Inc.; Range Servant America, Inc.; Ashworth, Inc.; Town Talk Mfg. Co., Inc., The Hole View, Acushnet Co., Sundog Eyewear, and Lava Marketing Group. MOVED BY: Commissioner Paluck; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Gillen, McConnell, and Walsh.

Resolution R09-022 - Award of Contract to Ferti-Soil Turf Supply and Lesco, Inc.

Resolution awards contract to Ferti-Soil Turf Supply and Lesco, Inc. for golf course accessories. MOVED BY: Commissioner Paluck; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Gillen, McConnell, and Walsh.

PLANNING AND LAND ACQUISITION

Commissioner Paluck, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of January 2009.

Tom Boccino, Parks Section Principal Planner, Land Acquisition reported that the total of land acquisitions for 2008 is 147 acres which brings that grand total of open space land to 10,300 acres. Tom distributed the 2008 Open Space Annual report at the Work Session.

Resolution R09-023 – Appointments to the Open Space Advisory Committee

Resolution recommending Dorothy Paluck as the Commission representative and Allen F. Kurdyla as the Citizen Member for 2009. MOVED BY: President Fuerst; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Gillen, McConnell, and Walsh.

Resolution R09-024 - Purchase of the DeNagel Property

Resolution recommends the purchase of the DeNagel property which is a 12.94 acre tract in Hillsborough. MOVED BY: Commissioner Paluck; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Gillen, McConnell, and Walsh.

Resolution R09-025 - Accepting the Gift of the Festa Property

Resolution accepts the gift of a 3.37 acre parcel in Hillsborough. MOVED BY: Commissioner Paluck; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Gillen, McConnell, and Walsh.

Resolution R09-026 - Purchase of the Pizzo Property

Resolution recommends the purchase of the Pizzo property which is a 4.43 acre parcel in Bridgewater. MOVED BY: Commissioner Paluck; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Gillen, McConnell, and Walsh.

Resolution R09-027 - Purchase of the Rezem Family Trust Property

Resolution recommends the purchase of the Rezem Family Trust property which is a 66.25 acre parcel in Millstone. MOVED BY: Commissioner Paluck; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Gillen, McConnell, and Walsh.

CAPITAL FACILITIES – CONSTRUCTION and ENGINEERING

Commissioner Paladino, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of January 2009.

Jim Shelley, Parks Section Engineer reported that two bids were received in January and two bids will be advertised in February. The bids for the Raritan Power Canal Restoration and the Quail Brook Pole Barn, Wash Down Building, and Chemical Storage Building will be advertised in March. The NJDEP has extended the water

allocation permits for Warrenbrook, Green Knoll, Quail Brook, and Spooky Brook until December 31, 2010.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Commissioner Consiglio, Chair of the Committee submitted a report for the month of January 2009.

Don Korbobo, Manager, Property Management reported that he has advertised for two hunting licenses, one for a new parcel and one for the Kanach property in Branchburg which has been licensed three previous times. Currently there are 852 acres licensed with \$62,321.00 in annual income. The new parcel, the Chubb/Brady parcel will add 90 acres to the total. The last Gaiser farm tenants, two horses, have moved out.

PARK MAINTENANCE - HORTICULTURE – SPECIAL PROJECTS

Commissioner Consiglio, Chair of the Committee submitted a report for the month of January 2009.

Jim Avens, Manager, Horticulture reported that the Park Commission booth at the New Jersey Flower and Garden Show was very well received. Gardeners Roman Fabyian from Buck Garden and Karen Migliore from Colonial Park Horticulture led the project. Staff manned the show from February 12 to 15 greeting the public, answering questions, and promoting the gardens, programs, and events. The Rose Pruning Workshop will be held on March 14 from 9 to 11 a.m. The Art & Photography Exhibit will be held weekdays March 2 to 13 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This Exhibit will feature photographs, paintings, and drawings of Buck Garden by 17 participating artists. The tree trimming is going well; Tamke Tree Experts are doing a nice job and have been great to work with.

Pierce Frauenheim, Deputy Director Park Maintenance reported that the Go Green Committee met with the Park Maintenance Department and one idea was to use recycled garbage barrels with lids in place of the steel drums. Another suggestion was to retrofit buildings for new lighting. Pierce attended the Freeholder meeting to discuss park maintenance requirements for Washington Rock State Park and other new county parks.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

No report.

FREEHOLDER'S REPORT

Freeholder Fontana reported that PSE&G is holding a GreenFest 2009 from April 3 to 5 at the Garden State Exhibit Center and would like the Park Commission to be involved. Cathy Schrein reported that the Park Commission will be represented on April 3 when the naturalists will be holding a program on recycling to the school age children.

OLD BUSINESS

Director Brown reported that the Pro/Celebrity Golf Outing will be held on May 11th and he has already received a check for \$2,200 from Chubb.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business to report.

Resolution R09-029 – Support of Somerville’s Application for Brownfield Development Area Designation

Resolution designates Raymond Brown as the Park Commission’s representative on the Landfill and Station Area Steering Committee. MOVED BY: Commissioner Jaeger; seconded by: Commissioner Hansen. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Gillen, McConnell, and Walsh.

Resolution R09-028 – Closed Session

Resolution adjourning into closed session in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Chapter 321, P.L. 1975 (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.) to discuss the following topics: labor and employment matters. MOVED BY: President Fuerst; seconded by: Commissioner Paladino. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Gillen, McConnell, and Walsh.

A motion to re-enter the regular meeting was made by Commissioner Consiglio and seconded by Commissioner Jaeger at 9:00 p.m.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 p.m. was made by Commissioner Consiglio; seconded by Commissioner Jaeger. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paladino, Paluck, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Gillen, McConnell, and Walsh.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond A. Brown
Director

Joanne Steinruck
Executive Assistant