

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **SOMERSET COUNTY PARK COMMISSION** held Thursday, March 18, 2010 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  
John Gillen  
Walter Hansen  
Joanne Jaeger  
Patrick Scaglione, Freeholder Liaison

**ABSENT**

Christopher Paladino  
Dot Paluck  
Gary Walsh

Other staff members present were:

Raymond Brown, Director  
Joanne Steinruck, Executive Assistant  
Jim Avens, Manager, Horticulture  
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.  
Marge Margentino, Manager LSS  
Alex Mathew, Manager, Info. Mgmt.  
Bob Ransone, Director, Golf Management  
Cathy Schrein, Manager, Envir. Science  
Donna Van Deursen, Manager, HR

Also in attendance: Brian Newman and Rich Reitman

**OPEN MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comment from the public.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

President Fuerst called for the approval of the minutes of the last regular meeting held February 18, 2010. **MOVED BY:** Commissioner Crosby; seconded by: Commissioner Hansen. **YEAS:** Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, and President Fuerst. **NAYES:** None. **ABSENT:** Commissioners Paladino, Paluck, and Walsh.

President Fuerst called for the approval of the minutes of the last Work Session held on March 11, 2010. **MOVED BY:** Commissioner Hansen; seconded by: Commissioner Crosby. **YEAS:** Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, and President Fuerst. **NAYES:** None. **ABSTAIN:** Commissioner Jaeger. **ABSENT:** Commissioners Paladino, Paluck, and Walsh.

## **APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT**

### **Resolution R10-020 - Payment of Claims**

Resolution authorizing payment of bills for \$827,986.70 comprising of check numbers 171253, 171423-171426, 171194-171251, 171502-171566, 171892-171941, and 172203-172304. MOVED BY: Commissioner Jaeger; seconded by: Commissioner Hansen. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Paladino, Paluck, and Walsh.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Brown submitted a report for the month of February 2010.

### **COMMISSIONER CORRESPONDENCE**

1. E-mail received from Councilman Kramer of Franklin Township stressing he will forbid the county government from selling tobacco products at public parks.
2. Letter from Jessie Havens expressing her appreciation for the Lord Stirling Stable staff, including the therapeutic riding programs.

### **REPORT OF TREASURER**

Commissioner Gillen provided the Treasurer's report having a book balance of \$516,981.92 as of February 2010.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **FINANCE**

Commissioner Gillen, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of February 2010.

Commissioner Gillen reported that the Treasurers Report will be eliminated and the Income Expense Report will be expanded. The revenue portion of the report will show month to month and year to date comparisons.

### **Resolution R10-021 – Extending the 2010 Temporary Budget**

Resolution extends the 2010 temporary budget. MOVED BY: Commissioner Gillen; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Paladino, Paluck, and Walsh.

Commissioner Gillen questioned what the timeframe was for the extension. It was determined that the resolution will be amended to state the extension is until April 30, 2010.

### **Amending R10-021 – Extending the 2010 Temporary Budget to April 30, 2010**

Resolution amended to include an ending date of April 30, 2010. MOVED BY: Commissioner Gillen; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners

Consiglio, Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None.  
ABSENT: Commissioners Paladino, Paluck, and Walsh.

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

Commissioner Consiglio, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of February 2010.

Donna Van Deursen, Manager, Human Resources reported that most seasonals are returning from last year, therefore, many positions are filled. Lesley Boyd has been entering the seasonal employees into the P2K payroll system.

### **LEISURE SERVICES**

Commissioner Jaeger, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of February 2010.

Cathy Schrein, Manager, Environmental Science reported that the EEC revenue on the finance report reflects the money received for summer camp registration to date. It is anticipated that all sessions will be filled and that the revenues will be equal to last year. Naturalist Daryl Anne Villard will be receiving the Governor's Award in Art Education in April. It is sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Education and New Jersey Arts Education Partnership.

Marge Margentino, Manager Stable reported that the Stable hosted a guest that leads a large horse program in Sweden. Marge has been working with Dina Trunzo and the Therapeutic Recreation staff to revise the T.R.A.I.L.S. program. A riding instructor currently at the Stable is certified in therapeutic riding and will be the new instructor of the program. The water bowl project is completed. The Dressage Show, hosted by the Friends of Lord Stirling, has 54 entries which is the largest number to date. The Pleasure Drive was cancelled due to the weather. Spring registration will begin on March 27<sup>th</sup>. Marge has been working with Karren Newman on Yoga for Equestrians program.

At this point of the meeting Counsel Lederman arrived.

### **Resolution R10-022 – Award of Contract to Schaffer Pyrotechnics**

Resolution awards a contract for the Fourth of July pyrotechnic display in the amount of \$19,000.00. MOVED BY: Commissioner Jaeger; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Paladino, Paluck, and Walsh.

### **Resolution R10-023 – Award of Contract to Gannett Satellite Information Network/Courier News**

Resolution awards a contract for the first year of a two-year contract for printing and distribution of seasonal Park Guides. The cost \$16,800.00 annually for three guides. MOVED BY: Commissioner Jaeger; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Paladino, Paluck, and Walsh.

## **GOLF MANAGEMENT**

Darrell Marcinek, Director Golf Maintenance reported that Warrenbrook Golf Course will open this weekend. Spooky Brook lost three trees during the past storm but they did not interfere with play and there was minor damage at Warrenbrook. Spring aeration will begin on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at Neshanic Valley. The Quail Brook Golf Course wash down building project is approximately 75% completed.

Bob Ransone, Deputy Director Golf Management reported that registration for the junior golf program went well and that program will continue to grow. Warrenbrook Golf Course will be opening two days early (March 20<sup>th</sup>) due to the warm weather forecast.

### **Resolution R10-024 – Amending Golf Fees**

Resolution amends the 2010 fee schedule to include a new Business Registration fee for businesses located in Somerset County which enables them to register the business and receive four registration cards which will permit the bearer to pay registered rates each time someone plays. The registration also includes a tee-time subscription. The cost is \$1,200.00. MOVED BY: Commissioner Jaeger; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Paladino, Paluck, and Walsh.

### **Resolution R10-025 – Rejecting the Bid for Providing Cigars and Associated Products**

Resolution rejects the bid received from Grinnell Recycling, Inc. for providing cigars and associated products including, but not limited to, the controlling items for humidors. MOVED BY: Commissioner Consiglio; seconded by: Commissioner Hansen. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Paladino, Paluck, and Walsh.

### **Resolution R10-029 – Reaffirming Prohibiting the Sale of Tobacco Products**

Resolution reaffirms the Park Commission's policy of promoting healthy lifestyles for the citizens of Somerset County by prohibiting the sale of tobacco products at Park Commission facilities including, but not limited to the golf courses. MOVED BY: Commissioner Consiglio; seconded by: Commissioner Hansen. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Paladino, Paluck, and Walsh.

At this point of the meeting President Fuerst left for the evening.

## **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

Commissioner Consiglio, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of February 2010.

Dan Livak, Deputy Director/Business Administration reported that work continues on the labor negotiations and budget.

## **INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**

Commissioner Hansen, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of February 2010.

Alex Mathew, Manager, Information Management reported that work continues in setting up the automated gas pump network system. The installation of the data line at the Stable between the main office and the maintenance building is completed. Work continued on installing the data line at Buck Garden. Set up new hotline and updated the existing hotline field conditions and events at various locations.

### **VISITOR SERVICES**

Commissioner Crosby, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of February 2010.

Dave Dendler, Manager, Park Rangers reported that the training for CPR and First Aid continues. The Rangers received training on wildlife emergencies and the Peapack/Gladstone Police performed a first responder training program. There is no cost to the Commission and is administered every three years. The Rangers assisted with the clean up at Duke Island Park. The Park Rangers will be at the Sourland Mountain Preserve and Washington Valley Park to evaluate the trails.

Commissioner Consiglio complimented the Rangers on a great job done cleaning up Duke Island Park.

### **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT**

Commissioner Consiglio, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of February 2010.

Don Korbobo, Property Management Coordinator reported that during the storm last weekend the Speiden house had the electrical wires pulled off the house by a fallen tree limb.

### **PLANNING AND LAND ACQUISITION**

Tom Boccino, Parks Section Principal Planner, Land Acquisition submitted his report.

#### **Resolution R10-026 – Recommending the Purchase of the Nelson Property**

Resolution recommends the purchase of the Nelson property which is a 27-acre portion of a 40-acre tract in Hillsborough that will be appended to the Sourland Mountain Preserve. MOVED BY: Commissioner Jaeger; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Gillen, Hansen, and Jaeger. NAYES: Commissioner Crosby. ABSENT: Commissioners Fuerst, Paladino, Paluck, and Walsh.

#### **Resolution R10-027 – Recommending the Purchase of the Roth Property**

Resolution recommends the purchase of the Roth property which is a 30-acre portion of a 33-acre tract in Hillsborough that will be appended to the Sourland Mountain Preserve. MOVED BY: Commissioner Jaeger; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Gillen, Hansen, and Jaeger. NAYES: Commissioner Crosby. ABSENT: Commissioners Fuerst, Paladino, Paluck, and Walsh.

Counsel Lederman reported that Resolutions R10-026 and R10-027 did not pass. Commissioner Crosby stated that he will not vote on acquiring additional properties unless

the maintenance of such properties is included in the budget. Director Brown reported that the properties are 50 acres contiguous to 3,000 acres which is a significant piece of property. An agreement will be negotiated with the D&R Greenway to allow them to work on these properties as a special project. The agreement with them does not have any bearing on the maintenance of the properties. The maintenance on the properties is zero. Commissioner Crosby said that he will vote no on acquiring additional properties until a cost of maintaining these additional properties is received.

Counsel Lederman reported that it was suggested previously that they discuss this issue with the legislators. Stuart has spoken to the head of Green Acres and there are new Green Acres regulations that will be adopted within the next six to nine months and opportunities to utilize funds may address this issue.

Ray reported that the budget will provide some relief for maintenance costs. The Freeholders have seriously considered the Commissioners concerns regarding maintenance of such properties.

**Revote on Resolutions R10-026 and R10-027**

MOVED BY: Commissioner Jaeger; seconded by: Commissioner Consiglio. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, and Jaeger. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Fuerst, Paladino, Paluck, and Walsh.

**CAPITAL FACILITIES – CONSTRUCTION and ENGINEERING**

A report was submitted for the month of February 2010.

**PARK MAINTENANCE & HORTICULTURE**

Commissioner Consiglio, Chair of the Committee submitted a report for the month of February 2010.

Commissioner Consiglio commended the Park Maintenance staff on an outstanding job done on cleaning the parks after the floods.

Pierce Frauenheim, Deputy Director Park Maintenance reported that all staff members worked hard clearing the parks of debris from the flood and Pierce thanked the Rangers and golf staff for their assistance. All parks are open and operating.

Jim Avens, Manager Horticulture reported that a large black oak tree at Buck Garden has uprooted and leaning in the Azalea Field during the storm. Tamke Tree will be removing the flood damaged, hazardous trees at Duke Island Park, Howe Farm, and Speiden House. More than 100 people attended the Buck Garden Art and Photography Exhibit. Gardener Kathleen Podgalsky did a great job of coordinating the exhibit. A large clearing and invasive tree removal project was completed at Washington Rock Park which will preserve the magnificent view and control the spread of Ailanthus trees. Mike Ballow did a great job of coordinating the clean up efforts. Buck Garden and Colonial Park Gardens were well represented at two prominent Flower and Garden Shows through the Garden State Gardens Consortium booths. The shows included Springfest Flower and Garden Show in Augusta, NJ and the New Jersey Flower and Garden Show in February at the

Convention Center in Edison. Jim distributed flyers for the upcoming Spring Plant Sale and Earth Day Celebration to be held at Buck Garden on April 24 and 25.

**Resolution R10-028 – Change Order #1 for Upgrade of Existing Gasboy Systems**

Resolution increases the dollar amount by \$12,034 for retrofitting two existing pumps at North Branch and Colonial Park. MOVED BY: Commissioner Consiglio; seconded by: Commissioner Crosby. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, and Jaeger. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Fuerst, Paladino, Paluck, and Walsh.

**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 6:30 p.m. was made by Commissioner Consiglio; seconded by Commissioner Crosby. YEAS: Commissioners Consiglio, Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, and Jaeger. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Fuerst, Paladino, Paluck, and Walsh.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond A. Brown  
Director

Joanne Steinruck  
Executive Assistant