

MINUTES of a meeting of the **SOMERSET COUNTY PARK COMMISSION** held Thursday, September 17, 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

William Crosby
Steven Fuerst
John Gillen
Walter Hansen
Joanne Jaeger
Dot Paluck
Gary Walsh

ABSENT

Paul Consiglio
Christopher Paladino
Rick Fontana, Freeholder Liaison

Other staff members present were:

Raymond Brown, Director
Joanne Steinruck, Executive Assistant
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, Stable
Alex Mathew, Manager, Info. Mgmt.
Karren Newman, Manager, Recreation
Bob Ransone, Deputy Director Golf Mgmt.
Cathy Schrein, Manager, Env. Sciences
Jim Shelley, Principal Engineer
Cindie Sullivan, Deputy Director
Dina Trunzo, Manager, TR
Donna VanDeursen, Manager, HR

Also in attendance: Rich Reitman and Dan O'Connell

OPEN MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Roger Staib, who represents an adjacent property owner to the GSA / Belle Mead Depot project and who owns 336 acres of neighboring property, wanted to understand who was involved with the decisions making regarding the proposed future use of the GSA property. His concern was that only Hillsborough Township will be making the decisions and no input from outsiders will be heard. His client, Mr. Patel, is willing to contribute 70 prime acres to the project which will provide a connection to the Township's Ann Van Middlesworth Park. Director Brown responded that a Master Plan Committee consisting of six individuals (Ray Brown, Jack Ciattarelli, Rick Fontana, Kevin Davis, Anthony Ferrera, and Bob Wagner), has been created to represent the County and Hillsborough Township and to oversee the preparation of a master plan for the property. The Township of Hillsborough has also created an Advisory Committee to advise its three representatives on the Committee. A planning consultant has been retained and within the next two weeks public meetings will be held to receive suggestions for the future use of the property. Director Brown also advised Mr. Staib that this property is owned by the County and not the Park Commission. President

Fuerst suggested that Mr. Staib might better discuss his concerns at the open sessions planned to be held by the Master Plan Committee. Director Brown reported that he would confirm the meeting dates for those public meetings and would inform Mr. Staib.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

President Fuerst called for the approval of the minutes of the last regular meeting held August 20, 2009. MOVED BY: Commissioner Jaeger; seconded by: Commissioner Walsh. YEAS: Commissioners Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, Paluck, and Walsh. NAYES: None. ABSTAIN: President Fuerst ABSENT: Commissioners Consiglio and Paladino.

President Fuerst called for the approval of the minutes of the Work Session held on September 10, 2009. MOVED BY: Commissioner Crosby; seconded by: Commissioner Jaeger. YEAS: Commissioners Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, Paluck, Walsh, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Consiglio and Paladino.

APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT

Resolution R09-080 - Payment of Claims

Resolution authorizing payment of bills for \$1,036,062.93 comprising of check numbers 162653-162679, 162992-163004, 163178-163210, 163916-163925, 162680-162756, 163005-163043, 163344-163424, and 163850-163915. MOVED BY: Commissioner Walsh; seconded by: Commissioner Hansen. YEAS: Commissioners Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, Paluck, Walsh, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Consiglio and Paladino.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Brown submitted a report for the month of August 2009. Ray thanked those who attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new trail at Natirar held on September 15th.

COMMISSIONER CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter from NJDEP informing the Park Commission that the inspections of signage for the properties purchased with Land & Water Conservation Fund and Green Acres are in compliance with the regulations. The next inspection will be done in 2012.
2. Thank you note from the mother of a child that was able to attend Camp Okee Sunokee through a scholarship received from the Park Foundation.
3. Letter from Freeholder Director Fontana thanking the Park Commission for another excellent job on this year's 4H Fair.
4. Thank you note from the 4H Association for another memorable fair.
5. Letter from the Golf Course Superintendent Association of America advising of Darrell Marcinek's renewal of his Certified Golf Course Superintendent designation.
6. Anonymous letter from a very concerned resident regarding the property at the corner of Black Point Road and Woodfern Road, Neshanic Station. (This property is not Park Commission Property.)

7. Letter from a participant of the Somerset County Caper which was held August 22nd and 23rd complimenting the staff on a ton of fun.
8. Thank you note from the American Cancer Society for the assistance during the Relay for Life run at Duke Island Park.
9. Executed License Agreements from the Printmaking Council including Certificate of Liability Insurance.
10. Letter from Vitale Caruso & Associates asking if the Park Commission would have an interest in purchasing the Powelson property. It will be on the market within the next six to eight months.
11. Letter from the Homeowners Association of Canal Walk thanking the Park Commission for helping to provide a wonderful setting for their annual picnic.

REPORT OF TREASURER

Director Brown provided the Treasurer's report having a book balance of \$874,931.18 as of August 2009.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Commissioner Gillen, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of August 2009.

Resolution R09-081 – Approving Printmaking Council License Agreement

Resolution approves the Printmaking Council of New Jersey license for the Ralph T. Reeve Cultural Center be renewed for two years from November 1, 2009 through October 31, 2011. The Printmaking Council has been a long-time tenant. MOVED BY: Commissioner Gillen; seconded by: Commissioner Jaeger. YEAS: Commissioners Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, Paluck, Walsh, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Consiglio and Paladino.

Resolution R09-082 – Award of Contract to SMART Business Advisory and Consulting, LLC

Resolution supports the Park Commission's compliance and participation in the cost sharing of this new requirement which is to confirm proper management of Employee Retirement Program funding and it will be provided through the Joint Insurance Fund as a shared service/benefit of our membership. Counsel Lederman has reviewed the resolution with counsel to the Joint Insurance Fund. A presentation of the report will be given to the Park Commission. MOVED BY: Commissioner Gillen; seconded by: Commissioner Jaeger. YEAS: Commissioners Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, Paluck, Walsh, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Consiglio and Paladino.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Donna Van Deursen, Manager, Human Resources reported that the full-time payroll has been converted to the P2K system and the part-time payroll will be done in January. A meeting will be held on September 18th for preparation of the Safety Fair.

LEISURE SERVICES

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

Cindie Sullivan, Deputy Director thanked Cathy Schrein and the EEC staff for a great job on the tent for the 4H Fair.

Dina Trunzo, Manager, TR reported that on September 19th participants will be heading to Knoebels in Pennsylvania. Through a donation from the Park Foundation Dina will be purchasing a Wii system for the participants use. This will give the participants a chance to play and workout at the same time. A program using the Wii will be held in December.

Cathy Schrein, Manager, Environmental Science reported that the 1770's Festival will be held on October 4th. The repair of the French drains is in progress and going well.

Karren Newman, Manager Recreation reported that Warrenbrook pool closed on September 13th. The Putting Course is in operation weekends only, and tennis is still in full swing with Rally Ball being conducted from September 26th to October 18th, with a full roster of 75 kids and Fall Yoga has begun with a full roster. Breakfast of Champions honoring the tennis tournament champions will be held on September 26th.

Marge Margentino, Manager, Stable reported that the Royal Lipizzan Stallions will perform at the Stable on October 23rd, 24th, and 25th. This group last performed at the Stable in 2005.

Resolution R09-083 – Award of Contract to Shane Doyle Farms

Resolution awards second and final year of a two year contract for furnishing and delivery of hay for the Lord Stirling Stable. MOVED BY: Commissioner Jaeger; seconded by: Commissioner Walsh. YEAS: Commissioners Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, Paluck, Walsh, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Consiglio and Paladino.

GOLF MANAGEMENT

Darrell Marcinek, Director Golf Maintenance reported that this is the time of the year for in-house projects to begin.

Bob Ransone, Deputy Director Golf Management reported that as of the end of August golf revenue was down \$500,000 and 12,000 rounds from last year at the same point in time. The golf rounds are down mainly due to Quail Brook's delayed opening. Golf rounds are 700 above last August's total. Bob reported that the golf rounds will not be made up but the budget will be met. The Senior County Golf Tournament was held on September 16th at Green Knoll. The Club Championship tournament will be held on October 3rd and 4th at all golf courses. The Somerset Tour event was held each month at a different golf course and the final event will be held on October 17th at Neshanic Valley Golf Course.

Commissioner Walsh questioned if anyone ever got in touch with the First Tee group in Middlesex/Somerset Counties? Bob responded that he has called and has not received a response. The First Tee is a program for under privileged children. Bob reported that the Kline family, sponsor of the County Championship Golf Tournament in Dr. Kline's memory,

would like to start a scholarship for the summer golf program for two to three children a year (including at least one male and one female recipient).

Resolution R09-084 – Award of Contract to Somerset Golf & Snack LLC and Change Order for Food and Beverage Vending and Concession Services

Resolution awards the second year of a five year contract. Why Bake, Inc. failed to perform and abandoned its responsibilities under Option II, B & D of their contract with the Commission. Somerset Golf & Snack LLC, the second highest bidder, did submit proposals for all four golf course snack bars and beverage carts as part of its proposal in March 2008 and has agreed to extend the services for the same terms and conditions. The proposals will be reviewed again next year. MOVED BY: Commissioner Hansen; Seconded by: Commissioner Crosby. YEAS: Commissioners Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, Paluck, Walsh, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Consiglio and Paladino.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Dan Livak, Deputy Director/Business Administration reported that managers have been preparing their Capital Budget requests. Work on the 2010 Operating Budget will begin the week of September 21st.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

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

VISITOR SERVICES

Commissioner Crosby, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of August 2009.

Dave Dendler, Manager Park Rangers reported that the Hawk Watch began on September 1st and will end at the end of the month. A representative from the New Jersey Audubon will be there on Saturday's and Dave will be there on Sundays. The Park Rangers will receive training on the GPS system in October.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Don Korbobo, Property Management Coordinator thanked the Park and Golf Maintenance staff for their help with the Green Acres inspection requests. He also thanked the County Road Department for its assistance with the Dar Mar parcel driveway. The roof replacement at the Howe farmhouse is completed. The Projects Crew has coordinated the installation of two oil tanks in the basement of the Ross house.

PLANNING AND LAND ACQUISITION

Jim Shelly reported that all projects are going smoothly.

CAPITAL FACILITIES – CONSTRUCTION and ENGINEERING

Jim Shelley, Parks Section Engineer reported all projects are on-going.

PARK MAINTENANCE & HORTICULTURE

Pierce Frauenheim, Deputy Director Park Maintenance reported staff has been busy preparing for many events. President Fuerst commented that the new trail at Natirar is very impressive.

Resolution R09-085 – Award of Contract to Gavin Electric

Resolution awards third and final year of a three year contract for electrical services. MOVED BY: Commissioner Jaeger; seconded by: Commissioner Walsh. YEAS: Commissioners Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, Paluck, Walsh, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Consiglio and Paladino.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

No Audit Committee report.

FREEHOLDER’S REPORT

No Freeholder’s report.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business to report.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business to report.

Resolution R09-086 – 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 contracts. MOVED BY: President Fuerst; seconded by: Commissioner Jaeger. YEAS: Commissioners Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, Paluck, Walsh, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Consiglio and Paladino.

A motion to re-enter the regular meeting was made by Commissioner Jaeger and seconded by Commissioner Crosby at 6:42 p.m.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 p.m. was made by Commissioner Jaeger; seconded by Commissioner Crosby. YEAS: Commissioners Crosby, Gillen, Hansen, Jaeger, Paluck, Walsh, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Consiglio and Paladino.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond A. Brown
Director

Joanne Steinruck
Executive Assistant