

MINUTES of a Regular Meeting of the **SOMERSET COUNTY PARK COMMISSION** held January 20, 2022 at 8:00 A.M. at Somerset County Park Commission Headquarters, 355 Milltown Road, Bridgewater, NJ.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Hunsinger.

This is a Regular Meeting of the Somerset County Park Commission, and adequate advance notice of this meeting has been provided by publication in The Courier News on November 26, 2021 and the Star Ledger on November 30, 2021. Pursuant to recently issued emergency regulations promulgated by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services (codified as N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.1 through 1.7) the Somerset County Park Commission is now advising that its specifically aforementioned meetings shall be held remotely and virtually via the Zoom video conferencing platform for Park Commissioners in conjunction with in-person meeting for members of the public. Notice was also posted on the bulletin board at the entrance in the Somerset County Park Commission Headquarters and filed with the Somerset County Clerk, in compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.

Park Commission Counsel, Eric Bernstein added that considering COVID-19 mandates, this meeting was made open to the public and social distancing measures were in place.

President Hunsinger called the meeting to order.

Roll Call:

PRESENT*

Mark Caliguire
Nancy D'Andrea
Bill Foelsch
Ron Jordan
Helen Haines
DJ Hunsinger
Joe Kempe
Kevin McCallen
Paul Drake
County Commissioner Liaison

ABSENT

Doug Ludwig

Other staff members present were:

Geoffrey Soriano, Secretary-Director
Janine Erickson, Executive Assistant

Dina Trunzo, Admin, Leisure & Comm.
Svc*
Donna Umgelter, Admin, HR

*Participated via video conference. In light of the current COVID-19 mandates, Counsel and Senior Management staff were asked to participate in this meeting remotely.

Also in attendance via video conference: Eric Bernstein, Legal Counsel.

OPEN MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

SERVICE AWARDS

The following employees earned service awards during the month of January:

Receiving Ten-Year Service Award:

~ David Daniel, Park Maintenance

Receiving Five-Year Service Award:

~ Mark Hamersky, Golf Maintenance

The presentation of Service Awards has been postponed due to virtual meetings.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

President Hunsinger called for the approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 10, 2022. Moved by Commissioner McCallen; seconded by Commissioner D'Andrea. YEAS: Commissioners Caliguire, D'Andrea, Haines, Jordan, Kempe, McCallen, Vice President Foelsch, and President Hunsinger. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Ludwig.

APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT

The following resolutions were moved by Commissioner Caliguire; seconded by Commissioner D'Andrea. Commissioners Caliguire, D'Andrea, Haines, Jordan, Kempe, McCallen, Vice President Foelsch, and President Hunsinger. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Ludwig.

Resolution R22-019 – Transfer of Emergency Temporary Appropriations

Resolution adopts emergency Temporary Budget appropriations.

Resolution R22-020 – Payment of Claims

Resolution authorizes payment of claims in the amount of \$914,824.11 comprised of Claims in the amount of \$210,129.81, Other Expenses in the amount of \$36,203.34, and Salaries and Wages in the amount of \$668,490.96 for the period of December 18, 2021 through January 14, 2022.

Resolution R22-021– Payment of Confirming Orders

Resolution authorizes the payment of confirming orders totaling \$27,423.79.

Resolution R22-022 – Authorizing Additional Funding for Previously Awarded Contracts (Administration)

Resolution authorizes additional funds for previously awarded contracts.

Resolution R22-023 – Authorizing Additional Funding for Previously Awarded Contracts (Park Operations)

Resolution authorizes additional funds for previously awarded contracts.

Resolution R22-024 – Authorizing Additional Funding for Previously Awarded Contracts (Leisure Services)

Resolution authorizes additional funds for previously awarded contracts.

Resolution R22-025 – Authorizing Additional Funding for Previously Awarded Contracts (Golf)

Resolution authorizes additional funds for previously awarded contracts.

Resolution R22-026 – Amending and Cancelling Certification of Funds for Previously Awarded Contracts

Resolution cancels and amends certification of funds for previously awarded contracts.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Director Soriano submitted a report for the month of January 2022.

Director Soriano provided an overview to the Commission of the Park Commission’s Community Based Deer Management permit process. Director Soriano presented the statistics reported by Bernards Township Community Based Deer Management as a means of support to the program. Vice President Foelsch suggested Director Soriano contact Dr. Jay Kelly at Raritan Valley Community College to perform an assessment in March/April of the deer population on park properties for future means of herd control. Vice President Foelsch asked to be included in any meetings concerning Deer Management.

COMMISSION CORRESPONDENCE

There was no Commission correspondence.

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were moved by Commissioner Foelsch; seconded by Commissioner Jordan. YEAS: Commissioners Caliguire, D’Andrea, Haines, Jordan, Kempe, McCallen, Vice President Foelsch, and President Hunsinger. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Ludwig.

Resolution R22-027 – Approving License Agreement with Rutgers University for the Study of Bees at Sourland Mountain Preserve

Resolution approves an agreement with Rutgers University to perform a study of spring, forest-foraging bees at Sourland Mountain Preserve for the period of March 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022.

Resolution R22-028 – Awarding Contract for Purchase of Bernhard Express Dual 4250 Reel Grinder

Resolution awards contract for purchase from Storr Tractor Company with cost not to exceed \$51,500.00.

Resolution R22-029 – Authorizing use of Educational Services Commission of New Jersey for Purchase of Class 4-8 Trucks – Boss Tailgate Spreader

Resolution authorizes purchase from Cliffside Body Corporation with cost not to exceed \$5,994.30.

Resolution R22-030 – Authorizing use of County Contact for Purchase of Golf Course and Park Maintenance Materials

Resolution authorizes purchases from Andre & Son, Inc. Belle Mead Co-op, Big Bucks Enterprises dba Messinas, Fisher & Son Company, Inc., Grass Roots Turf Products Inc., Landscape Materials Inc., Mitchell Products, Nutrien AG Solutions, Plant Food Company, Inc., Pocono Turf Supply, Primos Products, Inc., Seeton Turf Warehouse, LLC dba Noble Turf, SiteOne Landscape Supply, Storr Tractor Company, Tri State materials dba Green Pro Materials, and Tuckahoe Sand & Gravel Co. Inc.

Resolution R22-031 – Authorizing Sale of Surplus Property

Resolution authorizes sales of surplus property.

Resolution R22-032 – Adopting 2022-2023 Municipal Deer Hunting on County Parkland Policy

Resolution adopts the 2022-2023 Municipal Deer Hunting Policy.

Resolution R22-033 – Amending 2022 Cash Change Funds

Resolution amends cash change fund resolution R21-289 to correctly state cash change fund for Colonial Park Putting Course/Paddleboats as \$200.00 and adds cash change fund for Colonial Park Tennis in the amount of \$100.00 with Dina Fornataro-Healey as custodian for 2022.

Resolution R22-034 – Thank you and Appreciation to Dorothy Paluck

Resolutions gives thanks and appreciation to Commissioner Dorothy Paluck for her more than 14 years of service to the Park Commission.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

President Hunsinger, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of December 2021.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Commissioner Haines, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of December 2021.

LEISURE SERVICES

President Hunsinger, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of December 2021.

Dina Trunzo, Administrator, Leisure and Community Services, was happy to report that the “Rebuild the Boardwalk” campaign for the EEC has exceeded its goal of raising \$10,000. To date \$16,000 has been raised in part thanks to a generous patron donation. Carrie Springer, Manager of Environmental Sciences is excited to be able to do additional projects with the extra funds. This year’s Festival of Trees event at the EEC was a great success with more than 2,000 visitors to the month-long display. \$3,700 in donations was collected during the event. Renovations to the Therapeutic Recreation area resulting from damage by Hurricane Ida are underway and Dina anticipates completion in a month. Dina is working with a committee of staff to do a careful review and update of Park Commission Rules and Regulations. Upon completion, Dina will present to the appropriate Commission committee.

GOLF MANAGEMENT

Commissioner McCallen, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of December 2021.

Director Soriano reported that an all-time record 238,000 rounds of golf were played at Park Commission golf courses in 2021. Director Soriano gave kudos to Darrell Marcinek, Director of Golf Maintenance and Ken Fivek, Manager of Golf Operations for the excellent management and maintenance of the golf courses.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Commissioner McCallen, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of December 2021.

VISITOR SERVICES

Commissioner Haines, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of December 2021.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Commissioner Haines, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for December 2021.

PLANNING AND LAND ACQUISITION

Commissioner Haines, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for December 2021.

CAPITAL FACILITIES – CONSTRUCTION and ENGINEERING

Commissioner McCallen, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for December 2021.

PARK MAINTENANCE & HORTICULTURE

President Hunsinger, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for December 2021.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

There was no audit report.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT

County Commissioner Drake stated that Dr. Jay Kelly from Raritan Valley Community College recently coordinated a meeting with the Energy Council and RVCC to discuss energy initiatives with the County. County Commissioner Drake will coordinate an introductory meeting with Property Manager, Doug Vornlocker and Dr. Jay Kelly should there be any initiatives that would include the Park Commission. County Commissioner Drake informed Director Soriano that he is awaiting response to an email from Ken Klipstein, Director of Watershed Protection Programs for the NJ Water Supply Authority about the Authority's proposal to overtake the maintenance of the Raritan Power Canal. Director Soriano is in support of this proposal and will coordinate a meeting for the Property Management Committee to discuss same.

OLD BUSINESS

Vice President Foelsch inquired on the status of kiosks depicting the history of the US Depot to be posted at Mountain View Park. Director Soriano will follow up with Tom Boccino.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

Seeing no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 A.M. was moved by: Commissioner Haines; seconded by: Vice President Foelsch. YEAS: Commissioners Caliguire, D'Andrea, Haines, Jordan, Kempe, McCallen, Vice President Foelsch, and President Hunsinger. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Ludwig.

Respectfully submitted,



Geoffrey D. Soriano
Secretary-Director



Janine Erickson
Executive Assistant