

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **SOMERSET COUNTY PARK COMMISSION** held Thursday, April 19, 2012 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  
Dale Florio – Telephone (5:30-7:05 pm)  
Steven Fuerst  
Walter Hansen  
Joanne Jaeger – Telephone (5:30-7:05 pm)  
Dot Paluck  
Gary Walsh  
Patrick Scaglione, Freeholder Liaison

**ABSENT**

Paul Consiglio  
Christopher Paladino

Other staff members present were:

Raymond Brown, Secretary-Director  
Joanne Steinruck, Executive Assistant  
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.  
Margie Margentino, Manager Stable  
Alex Mathew, Manager Info. Mgmt.  
Karren Newman, Manager Recreation  
Bob Ransone, Director, Golf Management  
Cathy Schrein, Manager, Envir. Science  
Adam Slutsky, Principal Engineer  
Cindie Sullivan, Deputy Director  
Dina Trunzo, Manager TR

Also in attendance: Yvonne Childress and Rich Reitman

**OPEN MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comment from the public.

**SERVICE AWARDS**

President Fuerst presented five year service awards to David Kuczynski, Philip Petraglia, and Christopher Thaler; a ten year service award to Darrell Marcinek; and a 25 year service award to Lorenzo Digiacomantonio.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

President Fuerst called for the approval of the minutes of the last regular meeting held March 15, 2012. **MOVED BY:** Commissioner Hansen; **seconded by:** Commissioner

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

President Fuerst called for the approval of the minutes of the last Work Session held on April 12, 2012. MOVED BY: Commissioner Crosby; seconded by: Commissioner Paluck . YEAS: Commissioners Crosby, Florio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paluck, Walsh, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Consiglio and Paladino.

## **APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT**

### **Resolution R12-030 - Payment of Claims**

Resolution authorizing payment of bills for \$1,504,628.78 comprising of check numbers 212001-212006, 211076-211107, 211535-211617, 211622, 211854-211915, 212331-212390, and 212686-212740. MOVED BY: Commissioner Crosby; seconded by: Commissioner Paluck. YEAS: Commissioners Crosby, Florio, 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 March 2012.

## **COMMISSIONER CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Notice of a Public Hearing from New Jersey Water Supply Authority regarding the Ridge at Back Brook Golf Course request for renewal of uninterrupted water supply of .123 million gallons per day from the Back Brook for July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2022.
2. Notice from New Jersey Water Supply Authority announcing the public hearing for Trenton Country Club Application for Uninterruptible Water Supply from the Raritan Basin System has been cancelled.
3. Notice from New Jersey Water Supply Authority announcing the public hearing for The Ridge at Back Brook Application for Uninterruptible Water Supply from the Raritan Basin System has been cancelled.
4. Letter from New Jersey State Golf Association asking Neshanic Valley Golf Course to host the 2014 NJSGA Men's Public Links Championship on Thursday, July 24, 2014.
5. Monmouth County Park System Response to Draft State Strategic Plan.
6. Letter from Middle Earth asking support for the "Hills of Somerset" bicycle race throughout Somerset County.
7. Contribution of \$1,000.00 from the Garden Club of Somerset Hills for the "Healthy Living" Program.
8. Letter regarding the demolition of the structure on the corner of Woodfern and Blackpoint Roads in Neshanic Station.
9. Somerset County resolution in support of the Action Plan concepts of the Raritan River initiative.

10. Letter from the Director of Environmental Engineering, Remediation & Transactions for Pfizer informing the Park Commission that the EPA has issued a proposed remedial action plan for the American Cyanamid Superfund Site and Pfizer is prepared to move forward with the engineering, design activities, and invest significant resources to implement the proposed EPA's plan.
11. Notice of Intent for Robert Street Dam. The start date of the demolition has been scheduled for July 23.

#### **Resolution R12-031 – Adopting the 2012 Operating Budget**

Resolution adopts the budget for 2012. MOVED BY: Commissioner Walsh; seconded by: Commissioner Hansen. YEAS: Commissioners Crosby, Florio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paluck, Walsh, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Consiglio and Paladino.

President Fuerst reported that the hard work that went into this effort is reflected in the budget. Steve thanked the staff that worked on the budget. Director Brown reported that proposed budget is for \$18,646,240.00 with total anticipated revenue at \$9,363,294.00. The Freeholder appropriation is \$8,068,000.00 which is only \$100,000.00 less than last years' appropriation.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

##### **RESOLUTIONS**

The following resolutions were MOVED BY: Commissioner Walsh; seconded by: Commissioner Hansen. YEAS: Commissioners Crosby, Florio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paluck, Walsh, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Consiglio and Paladino.

#### **Resolution R12-032 – Award of Third and Final Year Contract for Ice Cream/Soft Ice Concession Services**

Resolution awards a contract to Josefa, Inc. for services at the July 4 Family Festival and Sunday Series Concerts at Duke Island Park.

#### **Resolution R12-033 – Award of Contract for Colonial Park Putting Course Putting Green Replacement**

Resolution awards a contract to Louis Barbato Landscaping and the cost is not to exceed \$25,134.00.

#### **Resolution R12-034 – Award of Contract for Fourth of July Pyrotechnic Display**

Resolution awards a contract to Schaffer Pyrotechnics and the cost is not to exceed \$19,000.00.

**Resolution R12-035 – Award of First Year of a Three-Year Contract for Maintenance and Repair of Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Systems and Boilers**

Resolution awards a contract to Professional Climate Control, Inc. and the cost is not to exceed \$33,700.00.

**Resolution R12-036 – Award of County Co-Op Contract to Purchase One (1) Toro 2012 Workman HDX Utility Vehicle**

Resolution awards a contract to Storr Tractor Company and the cost is not to exceed \$18,737.27. This vehicle will be used at Skillman Park.

**Resolution R12-037 – Award of Third and Final Year for Furnishing Irrigation Control System Support and Services to the Golf Division**

Resolution awards a contract to Storr Tractor Company and the cost is not to exceed \$8,396.00.

**Resolution R12-038 – Award of a Five (5) Year Contract for Farm License**

Resolution awards a contract to Mark Kirby, Derwood Farms for the Kanach North Parcel. The fee is \$4,107.89 per year.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FINANCE/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

Commissioner Walsh, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of March 2012.

Dan Livak, Deputy Director/Business Administrator reported that spending is 2.59% less than last year and revenue has increased 53.78% or \$539,524.00 as compared to 2011 and 38.40% or \$428,042.00 as compared to 2010. Ray reported managers have made a five percent cut in their respective division budgets and that the savings is reflected in the budget numbers.

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

A report was submitted for March 2012.

**LEISURE SERVICES**

Commissioner Jaeger, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of March 2012.

Dina Trunzo, Manager Therapeutic Recreation reported that the money received was a grant from the Garden Club of Somerset Hills. The funds will be applied to the “Healthy Living” Program that Lee Shahay does at Richard Hall Community Mental Health Center and which has been a very successful program and is expanding. Dina also received an anonymous contribution of \$1,000.00 from a company on behalf of the Langenfeld family whose daughter participates in the TR programs. Dina will send a thank you to the family. The donor wants to remain anonymous. Hillsborough Township presented

the Park Commission with a Proclamation recognizing the programs and services that the Park Commission offers for people with autism as part of Autism Awareness month. Dina accepted the proclamation at their recent public meeting on behalf of the department and the Park Commission.

Cathy Schrein, Manager, Environmental Science reported that April is Earth month. The EEC will be celebrating Earth month on April 29 with a Project E.A.R.T.H. Swamp Search. The Eco Rally is on-going and has 48 teams which is almost 1,000 people and the awards ceremony will be held on May 6. The installation of the solar panels should be completed by the first week in May. Cathy will keep everyone informed when a date has been established for the ribbon cutting.

Marge Margentino, Manager Stable reported that the spring registration went well. The volume of registration for the youth and adult classes created two additional beginner classes. Spring lessons are on-going and the dressage and Private Hunter Pace events were successful. Easter weekend Marge received notice that a friend will be donating a Welsh Cob pony to the Stable for Therapeutic Driving and lead line programs. The clinic on April 21 has two sessions and enough on the waiting list for another clinic. Family Fun Day will be held on May 6. On April 21 the Jewish Center Community Service will have volunteers working at the Stable on chores.

Karren Newman, Manager Recreation reported that the Volunteer Recognition Dinner will be held on April 26 at 6:00 p.m. at Neshanic Valley Golf Course. Tennis registration has increased and court time is more of a premium. All on-line slots are taken. On line registration for Warrenbrook Pool has increased in revenue. Spring Yoga has begun with 52 registered; 26 in the first class and 26 in the second class. The putting course will open in May and new carpets will be installed. Karren has been working with Adam Slutsky on the pool ADA accessibility.

### **GOLF MANAGEMENT**

Commissioner Paluck, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of March 2012.

Darrell Marcinek, Director Golf Maintenance reported that the WAPL is 60 days away. The scoreboard is completed and the banner is up. Staff has done a great job on preparing the facility for the event. The golf course is championship ready. Warrenbrook Golf Course will be aerated on April 23.

Bob Ransone, Deputy Director Golf Management reported that word of the WAPL is spreading around and there has been an increase in play, including out of state. Commissioner Hansen reported that he has heard comments from people out of the county about the event. Bob also commented that the RFP for the food and beverage concession at Neshanic Valley will be posted. A question arose regarding the need to award a contract for the concession prior to the anticipated June meeting. President Fuerst stated he wants to be sure the award is done by June and if necessary a Work

Session will be scheduled. Counsel Lederman will discuss the process with staff and report back to the commissioners.

Bob also reported that the Somerset County high school championship will be held on April 23. Bob has received a letter from the New Jersey State Golf Association asking if Neshanic Valley would like to host the 2014 NJSGA Men's Public Links Championship in July. This is a one day 36 hole event and Neshanic Valley has hosted similar events in the past. The consensus of the Commissioners was to grant permission for the event.

The USGA will host a WAPL media day on May 15. It will consist of breakfast, golf, and lunch. This will give the media a chance to see the facility, play the course, and ask questions. After the event at Neshanic Valley, the USGA will host the opening of Mickey Wright's exhibit. During May the Learning Center will host free clinics, free lessons, Mother's Day will offer ladies clinic and Memorial Day will be for veterans. Another weekend will host the volunteers, friends, and supporters of the WAPL.

### **INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**

Commissioner Hansen, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of March 2012.

Alex Mathew, Manager, Information Management reported that all users have been trained in Office 2010 and there were many positive comments on the training. The recreation software continues to be upgraded with new enhancements and features and will increase the speed.

### **VISITOR SERVICES**

Commission Crosby, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of March 2012.

Dave Dendler, Manager, Park Rangers reported that the Park Rangers are performing trail assessments at Washington Valley Park and Sourland Mountain Preserve. There is still storm damage that will be addressed. Dave is completing interviews for seasonal help. Interviews for the full-time Ranger position will be completed in May. There is a fire alert due to lack of rain and currently no fires are permitted at Colonial Park. Rangers are on alert and will keep the public posted as necessary.

### **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT**

Commissioner Crosby, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of March 2012.

Don Korbobo, Property Management Coordinator reported that the farming license agreement for the Kanach North Parcel was bid for twice the previous amount paid. Don and Dan Livak continue to work with FEMA and the insurance carrier on the damage from Hurricane Irene. To date a minimal amount of money has been approved by FEMA compared to the amount of paperwork that has been submitted. The Park Commission has completed their portion of the paperwork, now it is up to FEMA.

## **PLANNING AND LAND ACQUISITION**

Commissioner Paluck, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report for the month of March 2012.

Tom Boccino, Parks Section Principal Planner, Land Acquisition reported that the Colonial Park playground will be highlighted as part of National Landscape Architecture Month. Tom and the consultant will be on site on April 26 to discuss how the playground was designed.

## **CAPITAL FACILITIES – CONSTRUCTION and ENGINEERING**

Adam Slutsky, Principal Engineer, reported that the Colonial Park playground has made great progress and is near completion. There are items on the punch list that will be addressed the week of April 23. When that is completed a certification will be obtained and then the playground will open to public. The Howe project has been approved by DRCC. Paving was done at Duke Island Park, the Stable, and the Sourland Preserve driveway.

## **PARK MAINTENANCE & HORTICULTURE**

Pierce Frauenheim, Deputy Director Maintenance reported that Buck Garden staff is busy preparing for the Spring Plant Sale and Earth Day Celebration on April 28 and 29.

## **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

No report this month.

## **FREEHOLDER'S REPORT**

Freeholder Scaglione reported that the County budget will be introduced at the end of April for adoption. Patrick thanked the Park Commission for all the work that went into preparing the 2012 budget. Ray Brown has been working with Patrick on prioritizing projects that can be paid for by Capital funding. There will be a meeting to discuss the GSA project as well as Skillman Village. The outlook for Skillman Village will be more passive and will begin moving ahead within the next couple of weeks. Director Brown indicated that a trail system will be created as soon as possible for immediate use.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Resolution R12-039 – Resolution of Thanks and Appreciation to the Somerset Patriots Baseball Club**

Resolution thanks the Patriots for the donation of lockers and furniture. MOVED BY: Commissioner Crosby; seconded by: Commissioner Paluck. YEAS: Commissioners Crosby, Florio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paluck, and Walsh. NAYES: None. ABSTAIN: President Fuerst. ABSENT: Commissioners Consiglio and Paladino.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Crosby mentioned that at the April Work Session there was discussion regarding the Capital Facilities Plan that was done in 2005. Bill reported that he would like the Commission to research how much it would cost to update the plan. Director

Brown reported that the Plan was a 20 Year Master Plan and reminded all that the discussion in the Work Session was about a recreation center and an aquatic facility, and conducting a feasibility study. The Commissioners discussed this further at the Commission meeting. The Park Commission is currently 90 percent revenue dependent on golf. Commissioner Florio then stated that he does not want to spend money on hiring a consultant to prepare the feasibility study and wanted to know if the Senior Management could prepare it. President Fuerst confirmed that he would like the staff to discuss how this should occur and report back to the Commissioners. Steve thanked Bill Crosby for raising the issue.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at: 7:05 p.m. was made by Commissioner Crosby; seconded by Commissioner Walsh. YEAS: Commissioners Crosby, Florio, Hansen, Jaeger, Paluck, Walsh, and President Fuerst. NAYES: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Consiglio and Paladino.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond A. Brown  
Director

Joanne Steinruck  
Executive Assistant