

**Final Minutes**  
**March 26, 2012**

**On a motion of Commissioner Goldstein, seconded by Adm Chairman Battaglia unanimously**

*Adopted John Wentland, Park employee, to adjust his health benefit premium contribution to 15% effective with the April 6, 2012 payroll.*

On a motion made by Adm. Chairman Battaglia and seconded by Commissioner Morris;

*to exit from executive session and return to open session at 9:45 pm.*

**Ayes:** 7 Cardone, Battaglia, Morris, Goldstein, Sass, Alvarez, Niemann

**Nays:** 0

**Authorization for Motion to Approve and Pay the Bills**

On a motion made by Commissioner Niemann and seconded by Commissioner Goldstein;

*to approve and pay the bills.*

**Ayes:** 7 Cardone, Battaglia, Morris, Sass, Goldstein, Alvarez, Niemann

**Nays:** 0

**With no further business, on a motion from Commissioner Goldstein seconded by Commissioner Sass the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm. Carried unanimously.**

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Priscilla C. Chang-Staley  
Park Secretary

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**Park Manager Report:**

Park Manager Paul Truax reported 2011 Park budget is not closed out. He distributed a copy of the 2012 Park budget, which is approved by the Commissioners at a previous meeting. New practice field six is still being worked on; top soil is now needed as well as a conduit in order to install lights for the field. Commissioner Morris asked about the status concession stand payments. Mr. Truax stated gas and electric is past due by two months and one month arrears on rent.

**Old Business:**

Commissioner Morris readdressed the topic of the Village Code and the changes Park Rec. Dir. Mancuso recommended, at a previous meeting. She added that the Village Code should include the addition of the No Smoking policy and the parking policy. Further discussion was had on the topic. She asked if the Village Code can be re-forwarded to the Commissioners to review.

Commissioner Morris reported that the Commissioners that were appointed by the Town are in full compliance with the Town of Monroe's request that they attend the Violence in the Workplace and Sexual Harassment Workshop.

**New Business**

Park Rec. Director mentioned one of the students from the Preschool programs was diagnosed with having lice. He noted that the student was not present in the class for two weeks prior to being reported. However, as a precaution, he had the classroom and the toys cleaned. As a reminder, he stated he the annual egg hunt is this weekend.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion made by Adm. Chairman Battaglia and seconded by Commissioner Morris unanimously;

*Adopted to enter into executive session to discuss personnel at 9:30 pm.*

Ayes: 7 Cardone, Battaglia, Morris, Goldstein, Sass, Alvarez, Niemann  
Nays: 0

On a motion of Commissioner John Battaglia, seconded by Commissioner Niemann unanimously

*Adopted to approve a 2% salary increase for Park Employees: Truax, Mancuso, Wentland & Mann effective June 1, 2012.*

*Ayes 7 Cardone, Battaglia, Morris, Goldstein, Niemann , Sass, Alvaraz  
Nays 0*

**Further resolved,**

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Resolved that The Monroe Joint Park and Recreation Commission, State of New York, is committed to providing a high quality of living to all residents.

And be it further resolved that the Monroe Joint Park and Recreation Commission believes:

1. There is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke. It can cause asthma, respiratory infections, cancer and cardiovascular disease. Children should be able to play and exercise in Smith's Clove Park without being exposed to harmful effects of secondhand smoke.
2. Tobacco product use in the proximity of children, youth and adults engaging in or watching recreational activities is unhealthy and detrimental to the health of both the participants and observers.
3. Tobacco products, once consumed in public spaces, are often discarded on the ground, thus posing a risk of ingestion to children and causing a litter problem. And be it further

Resolved that Smith's Clove Park, will adopt a 100% smoke free policy.

**Compliance**

The enforcement of this policy is through voluntary compliance. Appropriate Smith's Clove Park land; park facilities and open space will be signed indicating that the areas are smoke free.

The Monroe Joint Park and Recreation Commission will communicate with parks employees and officials, community organizers, leaders and coaches to discuss the policy and to distribute information.

The Monroe Joint Park and Recreation Commission will be responsible for promoting awareness of this policy.

This policy will become effective on (June 1, 2012).

***Resolved, to adopt the Smoke Free Park and Playground resolution.***

**Ayes: 7** Cardone, Battaglia, Morris, Goldstein, Sass, Alvarez, Niemann

**Nays: 0**

13. A copy of informational material regarding Smoke-Free Parks and Beaches.

14. A copy of an event request for the Trail Hike to be held on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Total amount requested is \$200. A resolution is needed to approve the request.

On a motion made by Commissioner Goldstein and seconded by Commissioner Niemann;

***Resolved, to approve the Trail Hike for the amount of \$200 .***

**Ayes: 7** Cardone, Battaglia, Morris, Goldstein, Sass, Alvarez, Niemann

**Nays: 0**

15. A copy of the Park Ids that were issued in March; 45 total for the month with 21 renewals. This reflects a campaign to remind people to get their cards and being available March 24, 25, and 26 for people to come in and get their cards.

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On a motion made by Commissioner Niemann and seconded by Adm. Chairman Battaglia;

*Resolved, to authorize MW School Softball team to utilize Field 3 for their event. Also, a \$150 fee will be charged for the usage of the field usage light as well as insurance and to Authorize Mancuso to work with the Team on 2 dates and to clear the schedule to allow them to play*

**Ayes: 7** Cardone, Battaglia, Morris, Goldstein, Alvarez, Niemann, Sass

**Nays: 0**

8. A copy of basic information to start a Lacrosse League. Park Rec. Dir Mancuso initiated the discussion of the possibility of the Park hosting an intramural league. Further discussion was had on the topic. It was decided to readdress the topic another time.
9. A copy of the 2012 picnic schedule
10. A copy of the Park's Calendar for April
11. A copy of the Departmental Report for the Municipalities
12. A copy of a Smoke Free Park and Playground Resolution draft. A resolution is needed to approve the policy.

On a motion made by Commissioner Niemann and seconded by Adm. Chairman Battaglia;

Draft Smoke Free Park and Playground Resolution:

The Monroe Joint Park and Recreation Commission agrees to the adoption of the following policy designating all parks, and recreation spaces under its jurisdiction to be 100% smoke free.

WHEREAS, smoking is responsible for the premature deaths of over 430,000 Americans each year from lung cancer, heart disease, respiratory illness and other diseases; and

WHEREAS, secondhand smoke is responsible for over 50,000 deaths among nonsmokers each year; and

WHEREAS, tobacco kills more Americans each year than alcohol, cocaine, crack, heroin, homicide, suicide, accidents, fires, and AIDS combined; and

WHEREAS, 80% of smokers started smoking before the age of 18, and the average initiation age is 12 years old; and

WHEREAS, everyday an estimated 3,900 young people under the age of 18 try their first cigarette and one third of these children will die prematurely from tobacco related illnesses; and

WHEREAS, to help role model nonsmoking behavior to children and youth; to provide children, youth and their families with a safe, smoke free environment; therefore be it

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**2012 Committees**

Park Rec. Dir. Mancuso stated he received feedback from the Commissioners regarding committees they signed up for. More information will follow with regard to placement of Commissioners on each committee.

**MW Varsity Softball**

Note: Park Rec. Dir. Mancuso added this topic to his report. A copy of their written request is #7 in his report.

**Park Recreation Director Report**

As per Park Recreation Director Mancuso, he reported the following information to the Commission;

1. A copy of February's minutes for approval (draft).
2. The following event requests require approval:
  - a. ID Sign Up, to be held on March 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Total amount requested is \$320.00.
  - b. Benefit Music Concert, to be held on Saturday, June 2. Total amount requested is \$1,020.00
3. A copy of the Atlas Service Agreement.
4. A copy of a brochure from Meyko LLC, regarding outdoor fitness equipment.
5. A copy of an information letter from Orange County Coordinator, Pow'r Against Tobacco, regarding the movement to ban public tobacco use in public parks.
6. A copy of a quote from a concrete Table Tennis Table from the company Bravado Outdoor Products. Mr. Mancuso stated that the Park will supply the equipment, during Yac season. During regular park hours, players bring their own. Further discussion was had on this topic. It was decided that an order should be placed for a table tennis table as well as a chess table.

On a motion made by Adm. Chairman Battaglia and seconded by Commissioner Niemann;

***Resolved, to allocate funds for the table and chess table.***

**Ayes: 7** Cardone, Battaglia, Morris, Sass, Goldstein, Alvarez, Niemann,

**Nays: 0**

Note: After further discussion, Adm. Chairman Battaglia rescinded his motion. The Commission decided to allow the Playground Committee to further discuss the issue, including looking for a location where the tables will be placed and what is needed onsite before delivery.

7. A copy of a field usage request for MW school softball Game on Field three.

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student teachers or with college degrees. Her plan for the park would be a different structure, with regard to sales. She added that she's very open and flexible to suggestions from the Commission. Chairman Cardone asked the Commission to compare this program to the annual Turkey Trott event that the Commission offers. The event is open to the public; no park id is required. Commissioner Morris suggested that advertising could be done within the YAC program; this way it would be easier to reach the MW students with park ids. Further discussion was had on this topic. Mrs. Pesce stated the curriculum is based on NYS Art Education Standards, within the area of 21<sup>st</sup> century concepts. Class length is approximately one hour, based on age. There is a ½ day program currently in New Windsor, using the concepts of the company. After further discussion, it was decided that the Commission will further discuss the issues with Ms. Pesce and see if the program can be reformatted to fit the Park's guidelines. Rec. Director Mancuso stated that in January he placed a help wanted ad in the Photo News for an art instructor hoping to offer an after school program but got no response. Commissioner Battaglia talked in favor of the concept of offering an art program.

### **Security**

Brian Carey representing Atlas security was present in the audience. Since Atlas Security just started working as the new security firm for the park, he requested additional feedback from the Commissioners. Chairman Cardone stated even though there are Park rules and regulations in place, there are reasonable exceptions in the area of health and safety. He cited an example of an incident where security refused entry to people, with young children in a stroller, who were passing through to get to the Franklin Ave exit. Commissioner Goldstein added that people can walk through the park and watch an event; however, they can't utilize park facilities without Park Id. There was further discussion regarding different areas of concern in the park. Commissioner Morris ended the discussion by stating regular incident reports are necessary in order to communicate to the Commissions what happens in the park.

Note: The Commission suspended the agenda, to speak with Dan Martin, MW Men's softball, who was present in the audience; later in the meeting, the Commission returned to the agenda.

Mr. Martin spoke to the Commission apologizing for not being present during January's meeting, when the leagues submitted their field requests. He thanked Park Rec. Dir. Mancuso for his assistance with the field schedule. Mr. Martin voiced concern over field conditions; in spite of the unseasonable warm weather he wanted to make sure that the fields were in playable condition. Commissioner Goldstein responded by stating that the field conditions are dormant but is in playable condition. With regard to the topic of field conditions indicator light, Commissioner Morris asked Park Rec. Dir. Mancuso if there were complaints from people who wanted to use the field but couldn't because the field lights were red. Mr. Mancuso stated there were a few complaints. Further discussion was had on the topic. Mr. Martin asked if it's possible to submit another field time request to use the Girls' Softball slots, after their season ends. Mr. Mancuso will check for availability. Women would have to relinquish their time and writing then, the Board could entertain a request. Chairman Cardone reminded Mr. Martin of the Parks hours and the no alcohol policy. Further discussion was had regarding this topic. Mr. Martin thanked the Commissioners for their assistance and support maintaining the fields.

### **Outdoor Fitness Equipment**

Chairman Cardone asked the Commissioner for their opinion regarding a proposal for outdoor fitness equipment. Meyko LLC proposed an outdoor sports equipment project. He distributed a brochure featuring the product. After discussion it was decided that the Commission will not move forward with the idea.

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**Monroe Joint Park Recreation Commission, March 26, 2012**

**The Monroe Joint Park Recreation Meeting was held at Smith Clove Park, 133 Spring St, Monroe, New York on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of March 2012.**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	<b>Tony Cardone</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
	<b>John Battaglia</b>	<b>Adm. Chairman</b>
	<b>Ann Marie Morris</b>	<b>Commissioner</b>
	<b>Rich Goldstein</b>	<b>Commissioner</b>
	<b>Gaye Sass</b>	<b>Commissioner</b>
	<b>Felipe Alvarez</b>	<b>Commissioner (arrived at 8:30pm)</b>
	<b>Mike Niemann</b>	<b>Commissioner</b>
	<b>Joe Mancuso</b>	<b>Park Recreation Director</b>
	<b>Priscilla C. Chang- Staley</b>	<b>Park Secretary</b>
	<b>Paul Truax</b>	<b>Park Manager</b>

**ABSENT: Commissioners Steve Pavia, Deborah Kohrs and Park Attorney Mathew Bennett**

Chairman Tony Cardone called the meeting at 7:35 P.M, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Note: The Commission suspended the agenda, to discuss item #2 Privilege of the Floor for the Public due to lack of quorum; later in the meeting, the Commission returned to the approval of February's minutes.

**On a motion of Commissioner Morris , seconded by Commissioner Niemann**

<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Ayes 4</b>	<b>Cardone, Battaglia, Morris, Niemann</b>
	<b>Nays 0</b>	
	<b>Abstention 3</b>	<b>Alvarez, Goldstein, Sass</b>

**to approve February's minutes.**

### **Privilege of the Floor – Public Concerns**

Liz Pesce, Art teacher at Monroe Woodbury Pine Tree school , was present to talk about a proposal for an Art Program for the park. She started a company called "Painted Minds" and the mission is to make art more available and accessible to everyone. Her intention is to do the same for the Park. She understands that enrollment can't be for everyone due to the Park Id requirement. She presented two different ideas to the Commission based on age; one program is for elementary school students and the other is for Middle School ages and up. For the older students, her plan is to create noncompetitive "teams", ask for sponsorships from local businesses to support art projects for each team. She reiterated the fact that the proposal may not work within Smith Clove Park because advertisement would be within the school district. Based on other previously run programs she's organized, the twenty percent of the sales is donated to the school's PTA and the remaining portion goes toward supplies. She included that the staff in the program are Art Professionals, either