

FINAL MINUTES

Monroe Joint Park Recreation Commission, November 18, 2019

The Monroe Joint Park Recreation Monthly Meeting was held at Smith's Clove Park, 133 Spring St, Monroe, New York on the 18th day of November 2019.

PRESENT:	John Battaglia	Chairperson
	Anthony Vaccaro	Adm. Chairperson
	Jonathan Novack	Commissioner
	Andrew Calvano	Commissioner
	Mary Elizabeth Burton	Commissioner
	Chris Sullivan	Commissioner
	Tony Schaffer	Commissioner
	Joe Mancuso	Park Recreation Director
	Priscilla C. Chang- Staley	Park Secretary

ABSENT: Commissioner Kayel Conklin, Park Attorney Stephen Gaba

Chairperson John Battaglia called the meeting at 7:35 P.M, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion made by Commissioner Calvano and seconded by Commissioner Sullivan

Resolved, to approve the minutes of October 28 2019, as written.

Ayes: 7 Battaglia, Vaccaro, Calvano, Burton, Novack, Sullivan, Schaffer
Nays: 0

Privilege of the Floor – Public Concerns

Chris Dilorenzo, Pop Warner Representative, spoke to the Commission regarding the fields. He recommended that a consultant should be hired to help maintain the fields. He had concerns regarding the quality of the fields; he felt that they are not maintained enough. The Commission hadn't heard that there is a problem. Novack commented that there has been an increase in field usage, due to an increase of sports leagues that have been granted access to the fields with their field requests. It was noted that in the past fall use of field 4 was limited to POP Warner, this year Lacrosse and Soccer had been scheduled. In addition, the park doesn't have an irrigation system to water the fields on a more regular basis. He agreed that the fields need to be watered more frequently. Novack recommended that their usage of the field should be more widespread. Dilorenzo responded stating Pop Warner tries to use all areas of the football fields. Further discussion was had on the topic. The Commission agreed the field maintenance should be reevaluated.

Tony Cardone, Monroe Town Supervisor, spoke to the Commission regarding the 2020 Park Budget. He requested that the Park's budget needs to be approved with the contribution the Town makes to the Park. \$364,000 is the amount that is slated to be given to the Park. Dwyer noted that the Village of Monroe's fiscal year doesn't coincide with the Park; their fiscal year is June 1 to May 31 whereas the Park and

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Town are January 1 to December 31. He further added that the Village isn't aware of the agreement between the Town and the Village's contributions to the Park. Battaglia suggested all three entities (the Town, Village and the Park Commission) should meet earlier in the year (in October) to discuss the budget. Both the Town and Village asked how much the Park has available to excess monies for use in their Capital Budget. Battaglia stated the Capital Funds that are in reserves are to cover the costs of the Park's Five Year Plan. The exact amount is not known. Further discussion was had on the topic.

Note that the Commission suspended the agenda to discuss the topics of pickle ball, to hear a statement by a park employee and a community project request. Afterwards the Commission returned to the agenda. Ken Kroog spoke to the Commission regarding the pickle ball sport. The sport is increasing in popularity. He's looking for dedicated courts. Currently, there are two dedicated courts in Pine Bush. The YMCA has a pickle court inside their facility. If there is a dedicated courts people could show up and play instead of placing the markings to create the court. Further discussion was had on the topic.

John Wentland spoke to the Commission asking for referral for employment outside of the park. He provided a narrative which included projects he's managed and various accomplishments he's achieved since he's been an park maintenance employee. He further explained that his efforts were not rewarded by receiving a raise. He asked for a referral so that he can seek employment elsewhere.

Tim Mitts, a representative from Preservation of Rest Haven, requested to have a helicopter land on one of the football fields dropping off Santa and Mrs. Claus on Saturday December 7th, weather permitting. They would be transported via fire engine to the Preservation of Rest Haven for a holiday event. The Further discussion was had on the topic. The Concession stand would be utilized to sell hot chocolate. Local groups are volunteering to help. Insurance coverage has been secured. The Commission voiced concern that they did not receive enough prior notice about the community project request, event details, the safety of the spectators and if the field is large enough to accommodate. Mitts responded stating the Village police will be assisting with crowd control and other security measures. The Fire Department will be providing support also. Several Commissioners volunteered to meet with Mitt to further discuss event details. The commission does not feel that the use of the Park by a person or entity to promote their establishment would be a "Park Purpose". It was decided that the Commission will deny their community project request but to approve the request from the Monroe Police department to use Smith's Clove Park as a landing zone for a helicopter.

On a motion made by Commissioner Sullivan and seconded by Commissioner Novack

Resolved, to deny Tim Mitts community project application.

Ayes: 7 Battaglia, Vaccaro, Calvano, Burton, Novack, Sullivan, Schaffer
Nays: 0

On a motion made by Commissioner Calvano and seconded by Commissioner Schaffer

Resolved, to approve the Monroe police field usage request

Ayes: 7 Battaglia, Vaccaro, Calvano, Burton, Novack, Sullivan, Schaffer
Nays: 0

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Park Recreation Director Report

Mancuso reported the following information to the Commission;

1. A copy of the Activities Director's report.
2. A copy of the November Meeting Agenda 2019 (draft).
3. A copy of the October 2019 Park meeting minutes (draft).
4. A copy of a Community Project application (Santa)
5. A copy of Smith Clove Park Rules and Practices. *Mancuso asked the Commission to review the rules and practices and adopt. Municipal laws apply to parks and have to be adhered to.*
6. A copy of updated Five Year Plan. *Commissioner Burton drafted the updated five year plan.*
7. A copy of a letter inviting leagues to January's park meeting. *Letter to the leagues may be sent via certified mail.*
8. A copy of League Rules and Regulations Agreement.
9. A copy of the Watch Guard Crew Off Peak Hours.
10. A copy of the Proposed 2020 Meeting Dates. *The Commission was asked to review them.*
11. A copy of the Proposed 2020 Holiday Schedule.
12. A copy of the Winter Snow/Closure Policy.
13. A copy of 2020 Goals and Objectives (draft). *Battaglia stressed the importance for the Commissioners to review for next month's meeting.*
14. A copy of a list of Committees.
15. A copy of 2019 Fee Schedule.
16. A copy of the 2019 Salaries.
17. A copy of the Stocking Stuffers Flyer.
18. A copy of the 2020 Winter Program. *Registration starts December 11th.*
19. A copy of the Park's Calendar for December. *On Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve the park will be open for half a day.*

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20. A copy of the Town of Monroe Holiday Party Invite.

21. A copy of the Tree Lighting Ad. *This event is still in the planning stage.*

22. A copy of the Park Maintenance Report. *Hazardous conditions on the sidewalks and in the parking lot are continuously being monitored and addressed on a daily basis. The water fountains have been turned off. Fields one, two three and six have been aerated; Novack asked how the aerator is working. Mancuso responded that they are working fine. Lastly, the hockey lights have been adjusted.*

In other matters, approximately 48-50 people have preregistered for the Turkey Trot event. Battaglia added that the Turkey Trot is a fun family event. Sunday December 8th is the date for the Holiday Tree Lighting event. Vaccaro asked for a status on the concession stand. Mancuso stated the water has been shut off in the building. Lastly, Mancuso stated park maintenance went to the Village to replenish their supply for salt.

Park Manager's/Maintenance Report

Topic was discussed during the Park Recreation Director's report.

Old Business

Playground Update

The prebid work through has occurred. Some interest has been shown; approximately five to six bids might potentially be returned.

2019 Committees Report

No new updates at this time. Battaglia asked for the Committees to starting reporting updates going forward.

Cameras

No new updates at this time. Village Mayor Neil Dwyer feels hopeful that the bid will be awarded by the end of this year.

Pickle Ball

Topic was previously discussed during public input.

New Business

2020 Slate of Officers

Calvano recommended that the slate of officers remain the same for next year, with John Battaglia as the Chairperson and the Anthony Vaccaro as the Adm. Chairperson. The Commission agreed; a vote will be taken during next month's meeting.

Final Budget Numbers

No new updates available, at this time.

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Letter to Leagues/2020 Field Request

Matter was previously discussed during the Park Recreation Director's Report.

Santa/helicopter promotion

Matter was previously during the Park Recreation Director's Report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion made by Commissioner Burton and seconded by Adm. Chairperson Vaccaro

to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel at 9:36 pm

Ayes: 7 Battaglia, Vaccaro, Calvano, Burton, Novack, Sullivan, Schaffer
Nays: 0

On a motion made by Sullivan and seconded by Calvano

to exit from Executive Session and return to open session at 10:05 pm

Ayes: 7 Battaglia, Vaccaro, Calvano, Burton, Novack, Sullivan, Schaffer
Nays: 0

Authorization for Motion to Approve and Pay the Bills

On a motion made by Burton and seconded by Schaffer

Resolved, to approve and pay the bills

Ayes: 7 Battaglia, Vaccaro, Calvano, Burton, Novack, Sullivan, Schaffer
Nays: 0

With no further business, on a motion from Vaccaro seconded by Novack the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm. Carried unanimously.

Priscilla Chang-Staley
Park Secretary