

SACHEM FUND BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

Thursday November 03, 2016

Norwich City Hall, Room 335

2:00-2:30 p.m. Meeting Notes

Attendees: Mayor Debery Hinchey; Comptroller Josh Pothier; Community Development Supervisor Gary Evans; Council Appointee Lottie Scott; Mohegan Tribal Council Member Mark Brown; Alderwoman Joanne Philbrick; Recording Secretary Marixsa Romanella

Potential Funding Recipients: Regan Miner and Bill Champagne from Norwich Historical Society

Citizens Attending: Shiela Hayes

Members of the Media: Claire Bessette – The Day

1. Mayor Hinchey called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.
2. Alderwoman Philbrick motioned, seconded by Josh Pothier, to rearrange the agenda so that Citizen's Comments can be heard prior to Review, consider and possible action. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Citizen's Comments:
 - a. Shiela Hayes – Had a few questions:
 - i. An update on the outcome of the matching grant from 2014 to the Norwich Historical Society for the first 2 walking trails.
 - ii. Update on the outcome of the grant to Community Economic Develop Fund from 2014.
 - iii. The grant to the CEDF had a revolving loan component and I asked if we anticipate receiving any money back to the Sachem Fund (this was mentioned during their presentation) to continue funding the Sachem Fund.
 - iv. Future consideration for how the Sachem Fund will continue.

Mayor Hinchey advised Shiela Hayes that today's meeting was a Special Meeting regarding the Norwich Historical Society's request, and that her inquiries have been noted.

4. Review, consider and possible action on a request from The Norwich Historical Society requesting funding of the final two walks in the Walk Norwich series:
 - a. Lottie Scott stated that in the past there was a cycle the organization went through to give an opportunity and open up the process for others that may wish to apply. Mayor Hinchey stated that this was a Special Meeting to listen to and Review the Norwich Historical Society because they requested such meeting. The Mayor stated that if Lottie wanted to open up a cycle we can do that and schedule a regular

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meeting. Lottie stated she wanted to understand the purpose that the Committee would take up the matter today because someone requested a meeting. Mark Brown stated that the Co-Chair Bill Quidgeon could not be here today, and agreed with Lottie Scott that there should be a meeting held to hear all presentations to discuss the whole funding aspect as it was done in the past. Mayor Hinchey suggested that perhaps we can have the Norwich Historical Society present today and offer a regularly scheduled meeting for other groups to present. Lottie Scott stated that in the past we set forth a procedure and the reason we set forth that procedure was because the Board had experienced issues in the past. A criteria was set in the past that the Sachem Fund would set up a meeting and bring all interested organizations before the Board but prior to the meeting sending out to the general public notice that we are now opening up the committee for receiving applications. Lottie stated that she was concerned with equal opportunities for other members in the community in having an opportunity to do their presentations at the same time. Mark Brown stated that in the past the process was, we set a date, everyone has to have their proposal ready by that date, and the committee would then discuss the proposals. And then via another scheduled meeting the Board would review all the proposals and narrow it down to which organizations would come in for final presentations. Mark Brown also stated this is something we should be looking at so we don't create the same issues we came across in the past, which was the committee was all over the place with presentations.

Mayor Hinchey advised that the Norwich Historical Society's email and request was forwarded to all member of the committee inquiring how we would like to proceed and she received no responses and therefore, that's how today's Special Meeting was setup. Mayor Hinchey asked the committee what was their pleasure, do we want to cancel this meeting? Mark Brown stated it would be better to schedule a meeting of the group prior to proposals to review what has been received, and then schedule another meeting for presentations for groups interested in the monies that are available to be divided out, like we have done in the past. He stated before this happens, we need to schedule a meeting to look at what funding we have and what we are going to do with it and to the other point that was brought up from Shiela Hayes during citizens comments – what's the Sachem Fund's status going forward.

A motion to cancel The Sachem Fund Board Special Meeting was presented by Mark Brown and set a date to get together and look at available funds, allocations and forward processing. The motion was seconded by Lottie Scott. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Meeting adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Marixsa J. Romanella, Recording Secretary