

SACHEM FUND BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

Tuesday, June 19, 2017

Norwich City Hall, Room 319

4:05 p.m. - 4:40 p.m.

Minutes

Attendees: Mayor Debercy Hinchey and Comptroller Josh Pothier Community Development Deanna Rhodes; Mohegan Tribal Council Member Mark Brown; William Quidgeon Jr. Council Appointee, Alderwoman Joanne Philbrick and Recording Secretary Marixsa Jimenez

Lottie Scott stated that she was abstaining and would not participate as a Sachem Fund Board Member.

Invited Guests: Attorney Michael Driscoll, Corporation Counsel, Frank Manfredi Ellis Ruley Project, Shiela Hayes, Ellis Ruley Project Lottie Scott, Ellis Ruley Project

Citizen's Attending: Alderman Tucker Braddock

Members of the Media: Claire Bessette, The Day

1. Deanna Rhodes called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.
2. Discuss and revisit the previous recommendation for funding for the Ellis Walter Ruley project including consideration of and possible action on potential conditions qualifying its recommendation:
 - a. Lottie Scott recused herself from participating as a Sachem Board member
 - b. Deanna Rhodes explained today's special meeting was called for the following reasons:
 1. Dianne Laiscell who is Ellis Walter Ruley's great granddaughter was rather upset with the City raising money using his name. To summarize she wants to know:
 - a. Who authorized the use of his name?
 - b. What the purpose is of the Committee/Project?
 - c. She wants to have approval for all withdrawals and future notifications of the project(s)?
 - c. Frank Manfredi explained his communication history with Dianne Laiscell. He explained he received a message from her and he left a message for her and has not heard back. Frank further explained the Ellis Ruley Committee has been seeking donations to fund the City owned property which is going to be

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named the Ellis Ruley Park; there is no profit for anyone. He also stated that Dianne has been provided all agenda and materials regarding the project and he invited her to the meetings and she declined.

- d. William Quidgeon asked if there was a liability for the City of Norwich based on the inquiry from Dianne Laiscell.
 - e. Attorney Driscoll stated that the City has the right to honor the people who it chooses to honor. He stated he sees no liability for the City as Ellis Ruley's name is not being misrepresented or used for inappropriate benefits or profit.
 - f. Deanna asked about the festivities that will be held. Frank responded that these festivities and activities are not money making and are educational in nature. There are no monies being charged to the public.
3. The Sachem Fund Board members each discussed whether they felt it was necessary to modify their original approval for funding. There was consensus to proceed with the original vote and that a resolution will be presented to the Council to support funding The Ellis Ruley Project. Lottie Scott abstained.
 4. Mayor Hinchey motioned, and seconded by William Quidgeon to adjourn the meeting at 4:40 p.m. The motion passed unanimously, and Lottie Scott abstained from the vote.

Respectfully submitted by:

Marixsa Jimenez, Recording Secretary