

**MOHEGAN PARK IMPROVEMENT & DEVELOPMENT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Thursday, May 12, 2022 – 6:30 P.M.
Norwich Public Works Conference Room
50 Clinton Avenue, Norwich, CT
Regular Meeting

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Beryl Fishbone at 6:34 P.M. Committee members present: Beryl Fishbone, Rebecca Melucci, Robert Harris, Judy Magnano, Councilman Grant Neuendorf and Patrick McLaughlin (Ex-Officio). Absent: Marianne Nicholas, Samantha Venturo.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Rebecca Melucci to accept the minutes of the March 10, 2022 meeting, seconded by Grant Neuendorf and voted unanimously by the committee.

3. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Trail Blaze Painting: Beryl Fishbone reported that there has been no blazing of the trails due to rain. Beryl also obtained recommendations for environmentally safe paint. Suggestions for a stencil were discussed.
- b. DPW Report:
 - i. Patrick McLaughlin said that handicapped spaces in the beach parking lot have been painted.
 - ii. Patrick McLaughlin also said that pads for the new fitness equipment have been constructed and installation should begin in 2 to 3 weeks. He also plans to install a couple of handicapped accessible extended picnic tables. The toddler playground equipment, all part of the American Rescue Plan funding, will possibly not arrive until mid summer.
 - iii. Patrick is still getting prices on disc golf equipment which should take 6 to 8 weeks from time ordered. He is still waiting permission from the gas company regarding the gas line that runs through the center of the disc golf expansion area and their concern with installation equipment that will be running over the gas line.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT

A financial report was provided by Patrick McLaughlin.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Blind Trail: Beryl Fishbone suggested the creation of a blind trail such as one in Windsor, CT. It would be post to post with ropes between. There would be sensory stations with Braille explanations.
- b. The Otis Library has submitted a proposal to Patrick McLaughlin regarding the installation of a permanent Storywalk on the path surrounding Spaulding Pond. They would like this project to be in place by July 1, 2022. Beryl Fishbone raised concerns about additional signage around the park. Robert Harris spoke in favor of new and existing signs that might be of educational interest to children.
- c. Rebecca Melucci expressed concern about cars that are parking along the narrow park roads rather than in the parking areas. She is also concerned with speeding in the park. Patrick McLaughlin said he would look into it.
- d. Robert Harris had 3 suggestions:
 - i. Installation of a specialized charging station for wheelchairs.
 - ii. Finding a more visible spot possibly within the park for a new/better skateboard park.
 - iii. Mountain biking trail. Bikers would build and maintain with no cost to the city. Beryl Fishbone suggested a mountain biking training trail.

6. CITIZEN COMMENT

7. OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made to adjourn by Rebecca Melucci, seconded by Judy Magnano and voted unanimously by the committee. The meeting adjourned at 7:34 P.M.

Distribution: Beryl Fishbone berylfishbone@yahoo.com, Judy Magnano jmagnano12@gmail.com, Patrick McLaughlin pmclaughlin@cityofnorwich.org, Rebecca Melucci beckimelucci614@gmail.com, Samantha Venturo stillwaters37@gmail.com, GrantNeuendorf grantneuendorf@gmail.com, Marianne Nicholas msbnicholas@yahoo.com, Robert Harris rharris2140@gmail.com, Betsy Barrett bbarrett@cityofnorwich.org, Angela Fuller AFuller@cityofnorwich.org.

Submitted by: Judy Magnano, MPIDAC Secretary