

**MOHEGAN PARK IMPROVEMENT & DEVELOPMENT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Thursday, January 9, 2020 – 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 6:33 P.M.
Committee members present: Beryl Fishbone, Judy Magnano, Rebecca Melucci ,
Samantha Venturo, Alderwoman Stacy Gould, Patrick McLaughlin (Ex-Officio).
Absent: Kyle Seitz (excused due to conflicting disc golf meeting).

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Beryl Fishbone, seconded by Rebecca Melucci, the committee
unanimously approved the minutes of the regular meeting held on November 14,
2019.

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report was provided by Patrick McLaughlin.

4. OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Resignation of William Barbuto due to relocation.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- a. DPW Report: Patrick McLaughlin reported that the water level has again
been lowered for the treatment and eradication of invasive aquatic plants.
Last year's lowering of the water level proved successful. Patrick
McLaughlin also reported that rehabilitation of the park's bathrooms will
begin soon. He also brought to our attention the occurrence of damage to
the concession pavilion's roof from a pine limb. DPW has extra panels to
repair the broken panel.
- b. Disc Golf Update: Kyle Seitz and his sub-committee are currently working
on fundraising.
- c. Food Trucks in the Park: There has been an issue with the insurance
coverage that the food trucks must carry to operate in the park as opposed
to what is allowed on other city properties. Alderwoman Stacy Gould
volunteered to look into this issue.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Election of MPIDAC Officers: A motion to nominate Beryl Fishbone as
MPIDAC committee chairperson was made by Stacy Gould and seconded

by Rebecca Melucci and a motion to nominate Judy Magnano as MPIDAC committee secretary was made by Beryl Fishbone and seconded by Rebecca Melucci. Both nominations were unanimously approved.

b. Park Activities for 2020:

Beryl Fishbone submitted a list of the following activities:

- i. Great Backyard Bird Count: February 14 – 17. Residents are encouraged to scatter a small amount of birdseed in their backyard or in the pavilion parking lot to catalog/count responding birds.
 - ii. Good Deeds Day: March 29th
 - iii. Arbor Day: April 24th
 - iv. Earth Day: April 22nd. A possible park cleanup was discussed but all agreed that NPW keeps the park extremely clean with very little trash to be found.
 - v. National Trails Week: June 6th. Freshen the trail markers.
 - vi. National Garden Exercise Day: June 6th. Samantha Venturo will look into getting someone to lead an hour long exercise group in the Rose Garden.
 - vii. National Public Lands Day: September 26th
 - viii. CT Historic Gardens Day: June 28th
- c. Non Smoking Areas in the Park: The designation of non-smoking areas in the park was discussed and all agreed that they have seen very few smokers in the park. The signage was put on hold.
- d. Back to School Movie Night: Stacy Gould has suggested a movie night in the area of the group pavilion. Possibly a back to school event with fliers going out to schools at the end of August. A free backpack incentive for the first 25 children and a suggested \$5.00 per family donation were discussed. Samantha Venturo is going to look into the rental of the screen and popcorn machine while Stacy Gould will approach the city council about keeping the park open after dark for this event.
- e. MPIDAC Website Link: Stacy Gould suggested a disc golf link on the Mohegan Park page of the city's website that would give information about the disc golf project to those who might be interested in donating.
- f. Labeling of Various Species: Patrick McLaughlin mentioned receiving an inquiry regarding endangered plants. Patrick was asked to reach out to the individual to see if they might be interested in working with us to identify trees, etc. for a labeling project. Samantha Ventura also has someone who might help. Patrick McLaughlin will look into the cost of plaques/markers.
- g. Patrick McLaughlin displayed a sample of one of several new signs that will be placed around the park to make navigation much easier. Patrick provided detailed placement maps and sign content.

7. CITIZEN COMMENT

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made to adjourn by Rebecca Melucci, seconded by Samantha Venturo and voted unanimously by the committee. The meeting adjourned at 7:39 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, Kyle Seitz seitzk22@yahoo.com, Stacy Gould sgould@cityofnorwich.org, Betsy Barrett bbarrett@cityofnorwich.org, Angela Fuller AFuller@cityofnorwich.org.

Submitted by: Judy Magnano, MPIDAC Secretary