

**TOWN OF STRATFORD
BOOTHE MEMORIAL PARK COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

The Boothe Memorial Park Commission of the Town of Stratford conducted a Special Meeting on **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2016** at 7:00 p.m. in the Employee Lounge on the lower level of Stratford Town Hall, 2725 Main Street, Stratford CT, pursuant to notice duly given and posted.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Presiding: Councilman J. Vincent Chase (S. Philips)

Commissioners in Attendance: R. Brown, D. Caserta, P. DeVitto, F. Kecko

Commissioners Absent: B. Burton, J. Brazzell, S. Voccola, J. Malloy, A. Scala

Council Members in Attendance: J. Vincent Chase

Others in Attendance: P. Patusky/Recreation Dept., Rosanne Neri, who was welcomed as a prospective volunteer and/or member

At this time, Councilman Chase opened the meeting to address the election of Chairman for BMPC, and called for nominations from the floor. Motion by P. DeVitto to nominate Stephanie Philips as Chairman of the Boothe Memorial Park Commission, seconded by F. Kecko. There being no discussion or further nominations, the motion was passed unanimously. Motion by P. DeVitto to close the nominations, seconded by R. Brown. Congratulations to Chairman Philips.

Also, Chairman Philips addressed the matter of a change in the BMPC meeting schedule from the 4th Tuesday to the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Motion by D. Caserta to approve the change in the BMPC monthly meeting to the 3rd Wednesday, seconded by F. Kecko and passed unanimously.

1. **Approval of Minutes: Tabled to next meeting (1/16/2016 Minutes).**
2. **Financial Report:** Chairman Philips addressed the matter regarding identification of the BMPC "Reserve Fund". For all other municipal committees and commissions, it is transitionally good for 1 year, then the balance of any unused funds reverts to the town's "General Fund". BMPC is an exception to the rule in that the balance of any unused funds always reverts to their existing "Reserve Fund". The usual BMPC Pumpkin Festival budget is \$15,000. There is also an existing annual expenditure of \$350 for an ad in the Stratford Community Calendar. Any other questions with regard to this matter can be addressed at the next meeting.
3. **Pending/Continuing Business:**
 - a. **Pumpkin Festival 2015:** Comment from F. Kecko regarding issue with follow-up by town employees to assure that the grounds and buildings used during the Pumpkin Festival are sufficiently cleaned up no later than the Monday following the event. No work was done this year until 3 weeks later. The date for this year is October 15, 2016, with no rain date.

4. **Volunteers' Reports:**

- a. **BMRS:** P. DeVitto reported on the following:
 - Work on the Garden Railway Display continues and noted that the trains will be running for the Boothe Park May Open House.;
 - BMRS was contacted by the Biebel family who would like to donate a vintage "freight wagon" for display at the Park - discussion followed re issues with location and whether it is authentic to Boothe Memorial Park;
 - BMRS was also contacted by a group from Essex that are interested in donating \$3600 worth of trains for the Garden Railway Display;
 - BMRS is requesting assistance with part of the entry fee (\$75) for their application to participate in Stratford's Main Street Festival. **Motion by R. Brown to approve an expenditure of \$75 to BMRS for their participation in Stratford's Main Street Festival, seconded by D. Caserta and passed unanimously;**
 - There are some of the tall pines along the entry driveway in front of the Train Museum that are rotted and need to be addressed for removal (Councilman Chase will follow-up on this matter).
- a. **BMAS:** Councilman Chase reported that the new door has been installed on the building.
- b. **Rose Garden:** F. Kecko reported that some of the rose bushes have been stolen from the Rose Garden; and that the security light at the Clock Tower is not working (Councilman Chase will follow-up on this matter).
- c. **Radio Club: No report at this time.**
- d. **Student Volunteers: No report at this time.**

2. **New Business:**

- P. Patusky distributed copies of the May and June rentals scheduled at the Park;
 - Chairman Philips encouraged everyone to invite prospective volunteers and/or members to attend our meetings, and familiarize themselves with Boothe Park and this Commission.
3. **Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. on a motion by R. Brown, seconded by P. DeVitto and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Gallo, Recording Secretary