

CITY OF TORRINGTON
FUESSENICH PARK PARTNERSHIP COMMISSION
DRAFT MINUTES
January 19, 2011

Present: Brian Mattiello, Chairman; Paul Summers, Secretary; Gerry Carbone; Chris Cook; Jennifer Ives-Groebel; Gary Mercier;

Also present: Brett Simmons, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation; Cleveland Fuessenich (ex-officio members)

Not Present: Collin Good, Mary Coutant, Jack FitzGerald (all excused)

- 1. Call to Order:** Mr. Mattiello started the meeting at 5:00 pm.
- 2. Agenda Overview:** Mr. Mattiello reviewed the agenda topics for this meeting.
- 3. Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Cook made a motion to approve the minutes from 12/15/10 which was seconded by Ms. Ives-Groebel and passed unanimously.
- 4. Final Review of Governance Document:** Mr. Mattiello reviewed the Governance Document which had been amended at the last meeting.
- 5. Review of Fund History:** Mr. Mattiello explained that the fund history was compiled by him and was not an official statement of the prior commission's finances. He noted that the prior commission formed in the mid 1990's had raised a lot of money. Very little capital expenditures had been made in the last few years. A final check from the fund will be paid over to the City shortly. Mr. Cook, who was a member of the prior commission, explained the expenditures to P-38's and Our Baseball Haven. The commission discussed whether such expenditures should be made in the future by this commission.
- 6. Discussion and Approval of Fund Distribution Guidelines:** Mr Cook shared a list of questions which the commission should consider. The commission discussed that the park was also used for other types of activities aside from baseball. The original donation from the Fuessenich family was for "recreational activities" for the "boys and girls of Torrington". Concerts, ice skating and other activities had taken place in the park.

The commission agreed that funds would be distributed for the development and improvement of the park. Further, no funds would be used as "subsidies" or for normal maintenance of the park. Expenditures that had another source of funding would not be considered. It was discussed that it was important for the public be aware of how the

money would be spent. It was also discussed that groups could make their own requests for funds through the City.

7. Review of Collegiate Lease Agreement: The review of the City's lease agreement with the Titans concerning the sharing of sign revenue did not provide a definite amount to the City. The commission discussed the status of the Titans and how that would affect the commission.

8. Discussion of Fundraising: Mr. Mattiello discussed that the commission would fund raise over the next two years. The commission discussed fundraising goals which were felt to be reasonable and possible. The commission discussed a goal that any money raised would go to expenditures and that the existing money in the account would not be spent. The commission felt a goal of \$20,000 a year was possible and that the sale of signs could raise money towards that goal. The commission discussed possible fundraisers: a comedy softball game, a movie night, a golf tournament and others. A direct solicitation was also discussed. It was also discussed that any money remaining at the end of the commission could go into an endowment fund.

9. Next Steps and Next Meeting: Commission members were urged to think about fundraising ideas. The next meeting was set for Tuesday February 1 at 5:00 pm

10. Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Cook, seconded by Ms. Ives-Groebl and passed unanimously at 6:57 pm.

Paul Summers
Secretary