



RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION
Minutes of January 15, 2013 Meeting

1. Roll call (6:10pm)

Present: Joseph Carvin – President and Supervisor, Town of Rye
Joan Feinstein, Mayor, Village of Rye Brook
Dennis Pilla, Mayor, Village of Port Chester
Douglas French, Mayor of the City of Rye
Laura Brett, Councilmember, City of Rye

Absent: Benny Salanitro, Commissioner, Town of Rye

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Supervisor Carvin welcomed new Commissioner from Rye City, Laura Brett who will be replacing Commissioner Joseph Sack. The Rye Town Park Commission also thanked Joseph Sack for his service.

4. Approval of Minutes:

On a motion by Mayor Feinstein , seconded by Mayor Pilla, the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the minutes of its November 20, 2012 meeting.

4. Comments from the Public

- **Gina Cronin (SP?), City of Rye. Requests Commission support for having parents of schoolchildren from the Sandy Hook school spend a day at Rye Town Park around Mother’s Day. The Commission applauded the idea and expressed its support.**
- **Deidre Curran, Rye Brook, an avid user of Rye Town Park and Crawford Park; has recently seen broken lights and other problems at both parks; documented the problems on a video that was placed on web; is concerned that the Town’s layoff of three parks workers – which seemed to occur without public input - is already negatively impacting the parks and may imply that the Town is counting on the public to identify issues at the parks.**
- **Catherine Parker, City of Rye. Appreciates the improvements at Rye Town Park over the past few years and has enjoyed in participating on Committees that have been part of the improvements; looks forward to future improvements; her previous comments about conditions at the Park were meant to be constructive not accusatory.**
- **Domenic Cervi. Does not feel that the three Parks workers who were laid off were responsible for the problems at the Park; these workers cleaned the aerators in the pond very day and fertilized the trees and painted the building every year.**
- **Dino Goren, Village of Port Chester. Wanted confirmation that security cameras were operating in Crawford Park and that he would not have a problem in replacing his senior pass to Rye Town Park.**

Responses from Commissioners:

- **Supervisor Carvin. Appreciated the public’s interest in Rye Town Park and concern about its future. The Town’s finances dictated the layoff of the three parks workers (and other workers at the Town). While this might appear to lead to Rye Town Park becoming a problem, the Town will use the savings from reduced health and pension costs to retain a professional property services firm to tend to the buildings and grounds of Rye Town Park (and Crawford Park).**
- **Mayor Feinstein. Did not know that the town was laying off some parks staff who were working at Rye Town park; felt the town should have notified the members of the Commission; is concerned - but hopeful – that the Town’s outsourcing approach will result in a well-maintained park.**

- **Mayor French.** There has been a tremendous improvement in park operation and maintenance since 2008. The Town has been open to input from resident committees. The City of Rye, like Rye Town Park – suffered significant damage from SuperStorm Sandy and faces a severe challenge to balance its budget without raising taxes/fees.
- **Mayor Pilla.** Parks are not income producers; operating losses are to be expected; the Commission should not reduce the needed maintenance of Rye Town Park because the fees generated by the Park don't cover these costs.

5. Maintenance Report.

- **Bishop Nowotnik,** Parks Director Fred Gioffre and Deputy Parks Director Bill Lawyer explained how the professional property services firm and the remaining staff will maintain the building and grounds of Rye Town Park (and Crawford Park) on a year-round basis. The firm will report to Bishop Nowotnik. In the off-season (winter) when fewer uses and staff are at the Park Bill Lawyer will conduct regular inspections of the park. Also, the town of Rye's Park Caretaker, George Hogben will be visiting the various facilities on a daily basis. Signs will be erected to inform the public whom to call if they see a problem.

6. Financial Report & New Auditor.

The Town is retaining a new auditor at a lower cost than the current auditor; this will reduce cost of Rye Town Park's audit costs by \$1,500. The proposed 2013 budget and fee schedule s included in the Commissioners' packet for review; it should be adopted at the February meeting.

7. Purchasing Policy. Put Over.

8. Contract with Pond & Lake Connection Service. On a motion by Mayor Feinstein, seconded by Commissioner Brett, the Commission voted 5-0 to enter into a \$3,750 contract with Pond & Lake.

9. Tower Painting Project. Put Over.

10. Correspondence/Requests – None

11. Next Meeting. NEW DATE...February 25th at 6:00PM

12. Adjourn - On a motion by Mayor Pilla, seconded by Mayor French, the Commission voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting.



**RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 25, 2013 MEETING**

1. Roll call (6:10pm)

Present: Joseph Carvin, Supervisor, Town of Rye - President
Joan Feinstein, Mayor, Village of Rye Brook
Laura Brett, Councilmember, City of Rye
Benedict Salanitro, Commissioner

Absent: Douglas French, Mayor, City of Rye
Dennis Pilla, Mayor, Village of Port Chester

2. Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Brett

3. Approval of Minutes:

On a motion by Mayor Feinstein, seconded by Laura Brett, the Commission voted 4-0 to approve the minutes of its January 15, 2013 subject to changes submitted by Mayor Feinstein.

4. Comments from the Public

- Cliona Cronin, City of Rye. Requested approval from the Commission to have approx. 100-200 parents of schoolchildren from the Sandy Hook School in Connecticut spend Wednesday, May 15th (rain date May 22) at Rye Town Park and requested that parking and pavilion fees be waived. The Commission approved both requests unanimously subject to receiving proof of insurance.
- Linda Lefkowitz. Requested the Commission to adopt and enforce a policy regarding dogs in the park. After extensive discussion the Commission asked Park Director Gioffre to work with Commission Member Laura Brett, the Rye City Police Commissioner and the Friends of Rye Town Park to develop a recommendation for discussion at the March meeting of the Commission.
- Deidre Curran, Rye Brook. As a daily dog walker in the Park, she sees many dogs that are well-trained and some that are not. Supports the Commission adopting and enforcing a dog policy that would enable all to enjoy the park.
- Clint Phy. Attended a show & tell meeting at Westchester County Center, at which the four groups who are proposing to manage Playland presented and discussed their proposals. The County has still not decided on which proposal will be agreed upon by the County Executive and the board of Legislators.

5. Rye Town Park Capital Committee (RFP for the re-use and possible management of Rye Town Park).
At the request of the Committee, the Commission put over discussion on the RFP until next meeting.

6. Maintenance report/FEMA update – Put Over until next meeting.

7. Financial Report/Draft 2013 Budget.

The Commission discussed the proposed staff's budget. The Commission felt the 2012 income from FEMA should be discounted in projecting the 2013 income and requested that staff revise the 2013 income projection downward to \$880,000 and re-submit the budget for the Commission to review at its March meeting.

The Commissioners also adjusted various Permit Fees:

Resident Family from \$140.00 to \$150.00
Resident Family Platinum from \$335.00 to \$300.00
Non-Resident Single from \$210.00 to \$230.00
Non-Resident Family from \$310.00 to \$330.00
Annual Parking from \$140.00 to \$150.00

The Commission also increased the Volleyball Season rate to \$20.00 per player/per season

In addition the afternoon discount hours were modified as follows:

Reduced Parking Fee would apply from 4PM until closing each day

Reduced Beach Access Fee would apply from 4PM to 7PM

Beach access would be free from 7PM until closing

All other rates and times would remain the same as 2012.

A lack of Quorum resulted when Commissioner Salanitro left the meeting due to another engagement

8. Purchasing Policy Approval - Put Over until next meeting.

9. Tower Painting Project - Put Over until next meeting.

10. Correspondence/Requests

The correspondence from the Milton School PTO requesting the permission to have their annual parade from Rye Town Park was directed to staff for handling.

11. Adjourn

On a motion by Commissioner Brett, seconded by Mayor Feinstein, the Commission adjourned its meeting at 8:10pm.



**RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MARCH 19, 2013 MEETING**

1. Roll call (6:05pm)

Present: Joseph Carvin, Supervisor, Town of Rye - President
Joan Feinstein, Mayor, Village of Rye Brook
Douglas French, Mayor, City of Rye
Laura Brett, Councilmember, City of Rye
Benedict Salanitro, Commissioner

Joe Carvin, on behalf of the Commission, presented a plaque and flowers to Mayor Feinstein – on this, her last meeting as a member of the Commission - to thank her for her work to improve the Park and Park policies and procedures.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Minutes:

On a motion by Commissioner Salanitro, seconded by Mayor Feinstein, the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the minutes of its February 25, 2013 meeting subject to changes submitted by Mayor Feinstein.

4. Comments from the Public

- **Goldie Solomon.**
Encouraged the Commission to have more concerts
- **Linda Wells, President, Friends of Rye Town Park**
Updates the Commission on the following activities of the Friends:
 1. New Aerators for the pond have been purchased; expect installation in April/May
 2. Plan to install new information center near security office
 3. May 18 fundraiser at Rye Town Park, 6-9pm
 4. Sponsor a movie on July 11
 5. Thank Mayor Feinstein for her service to the Park
- **Bill Lawyer, Assistant Park Director RTP**
The schedule of events for the season will be ready soon
The partnership with the Friends has been very helpful to the Park
- **Paul Noto, Esq, Counsel to the Commission**
The Commission should consider using an RFP process to select a planning consultant
The RFP Committee could “vet” the planning consultant and developer; however, the selection is made by the Commission

9. Proposed Grant Application

Susan Auslander, representing Carpe Diem-Westchester reviewed the conditions of the New York State grant application due in July for restoring the Administration Building at the Park. She proposed an application between \$500,000 and \$1.6 million. The application would require a 40% cash match of from the Commission. The Commission will continue to discuss this at its next meeting.

5. Rye Town Park Capital Committee

- **The RFP for “Development & Operation of Rye Town Park” was distributed to the Commission and a PowerPoint presentation was made by Kristina Bicher and Dan Tartaglia.**

The RFP cited public access, environmental impact, neighborhood impact, historic preservation and financial viability as the goals of the project

Currently, the deadline for responding to the RFP is July 19 and December 2013 is the target for selecting the proposal.

The presentation proposed that the Commission retain a planning consultant to help it evaluate the proposals and encouraged the Commission to consider the non-profit “Projects for Public Spaces.”

6. Maintenance report/FEMA update

Bishop Nowotnik reported on the status of the work to restore the damage from Hurricane Sandy. The removal of debris has been costly - the Commission has paid \$3,870; FEMA has paid for \$31,100. Although FEMA is moving slowly, the re-sculpting of the beach and the repair to the beach walk must be done by Memorial Day to preserve the beach season.

7. Financial Report/Draft 2013 Budget.

On a motion by Commissioner Salanitro, seconded by Mayor Feinstein, the commission voted 5-0 to approve a budget with revenue totaling \$880,000 and expenses totaling \$912,000 and a capital budget of \$70,000.

8. Purchasing Policy.

Bishop Nowotnik reviewed the proposed Purchasing Policy. On a motion by Commissioner Salanitro, seconded by Mayor Feinstein, the Commission voted 4-0 to adopt the proposed Purchasing Policy.

10. Correspondence/Requests

None

Mayor Feinstein spoke and expressed her thanks for the opportunity to represent the Village of Rye Brook as a member of the Commission and thanked her fellow Commissioners for their work over the years and their thoughtfulness tonight.

11. Adjourn

On a motion by Mayor Feinstein, seconded by Mayor French, the Commission voted 4-0 to adjourn the meeting.



RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION
Minutes of April 15, 2013 Meeting

1. Roll call (6:05pm)

Present: Joseph Carvin, Supervisor, Town of Rye - President
Laura Brett, Councilmember, City of Rye
Douglas French, Mayor, City of Rye
Paul Rosenberg, Mayor, Village of Rye Brook
Benedict Salanitro, Commissioner

President Carvin, on behalf of the Commission, welcomed Mayor Rosenberg to the Commission.

There was a minute of silent reflection to unite with the victims of the tragedy in Boston and their families.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Minutes:

On a motion by Mayor French, seconded by Commissioner Brett, the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the minutes of its March 19, 2013 meeting.

4. Comments from the Public

- Ann Moller, Friends of Rye Town Park

Updated the Commission on the following activities of the Friends:

1. Gardeners have begun preparing the beds for the spring plantings
2. Ground has been broken for the installation of the new information center near security office
3. The RTP Community Forum is scheduled for 10:30AM, April 27th at the Damiano Center in Rye
4. The Friend's Annual fundraiser will be held from 6pm to 9pm on Saturday, May 18th at Rye Town Park titled "An Evening in the Park with Friends"
5. The Friends, along with Carpet Trends, are also sponsoring a movie in the Park on July 11

- Jeannie Golden, Chair of the City of Rye's Rye Town Park Advisory Committee

1. Requested that the financials for the 2012 season be posted on the RTP website
2. Requested information on the safety and security operations for the summer

5. Rye Town Park Capital Committee

- Bishop Nowotnik advised the Commission that the RFP for Planning Advisory Services has been distributed; the deadline for submissions is May 3rd; a copy of the RFP for the "Development & Operation of Rye Town Park" is included in the Planning Advisory Services RFP as a "draft"
- After comments from Dan Tartaglia the Commission – on a motion by Commissioner Salanitro, seconded by Commissioner Brett – voted 5-0 to approve the draft "Development & Operation" RFP subject to final changes by Dan Tartaglia who will forward the final version to Bishop Nowotnik for distribution.

6. Financial & Operations Report

- Bishop Nowotnik advised the Commission that:
 - The 2012 audit of the Park's finances is being completed; a draft may be ready for the April 27th Community Forum
 - Three seasonal maintenance workers have been hired

- Otherwise, very little has been spent
- Fred Gioffre advised the Commission that:
 - Staff has sent the public many flyers, posters and press releases about seasonal passes and Park activities
 - There will be an Earth Day reception at the Park on April 20
 - The Walk for Pancreatic Cancer is scheduled for April 21
 - Security will start at the Park on April 23
 - Permits sales will start on May 8
 - “Tango on the Beach” is scheduled to begin on Thursday, May 23
 - Shakespeare in the Park is scheduled for August 2
 - Thanks to the Friends of RTP 2 new aerators and 1 circulation pump are being installed in the pond
 - Waterfall pump is repaired
 - Information Center is being constructed
 - New computers are being installed in the Admin building and at the entrance to the parking lot;
 - This year, paper receipts will be given to all those paying at the entrances to the beach
 - Information about jobs available at the Park will be sent to Port Chester, Blind Brook, Rye Neck and Rye City High Schools
 - Dogs that are not leash will not be allowed in the Park at any time after April 23 - the first day that security staff will be on duty

7. FEMA update

Bishop Nowotnik reported on the status of the work to restore the damage from Hurricane Sandy. The removal of debris is almost complete. FEMA continues to move slowly. The re-sculpting of the beach and the repair to the beach walk will be done by the second week of May. Park staff is working with the City of Rye to re-design the seawall and submit the drawings to FEMA for approval. The repair of the roof of the bathrooms – which was damaged by Hurricane Sandy – will be expensive and may need to be bonded. However, staff is trying to develop an approach to repairing the roof with tiles that were saved from a few years ago when a new tile roof was put on the Administration building.

Bishop Nowotnik requested that the Commission amend the Park’s Capital Budget for 2013 by deferring the purchase of new benches for \$7,000 and replacing it with the purchase of 2 new computers, 5 mag stripe card readers, a new permit card printer, and 3 receipt printers for the 3 beach and 2 parking lot entrances. These new computers would enable staff to process credit card payments. On a motion by Commissioner Salanitro, seconded by Commissioner Brett, the Commission approved the request 5-0.

8. Correspondence

The Commission discussed the request of the television series “Royal Pains” to tape at the Park for up to two days - April 29 and 30 – and to have some set-up and take-down days. The Commission discussed the policies and fees that would be charged. Dick Hubert, a media consultant, advised the Commission on the range of fees that are within the budgets of TV series. On a motion by Mayor French, seconded by Commissioner French, the Commission voted 5-0 to permit “Royal Pains” to use the Park subject to its confirmation of the fees and policies developed by staff.

9. Adjourn

On a motion by Mayor Rosenberg, seconded by Commissioner Salanitro, the Commission voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm



RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION
Minutes of June 18, 2013 Meeting

1. Roll call (6pm) (at Rye Neck High School)

Present: Joseph Carvin, Supervisor, Town of Rye – President (late)
Laura Brett, Councilmember, City of Rye
Douglas French, Mayor, City of Rye
Neil Pagano, Mayor, Village of Port Chester
Paul Rosenberg, Mayor, Village of Rye Brook
Benedict Salanitro, Commissioner

2. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Linda Wells

3. Approval of Minutes:

April and May minutes put over to July

4. Comments from the Public

- Linda Wells briefed the Commission on the activities at the Park that are being sponsored and paid for by the Friends of Rye Town Park including the soil analysis, fertilization and tree trimming.

5. Rye Town Park Capital Committee

- Dan Tartaglia briefed the Commission on the status of the RFP for a Planning Consultant to help the Commission promote, and evaluate responses to, “Development & Operation RFP.” The RFP was divided into two sections: one to be paid by the Commission and one to be paid by the selected developer. Four responses were received. The RFP Capital Committee has not met with the consultants. Waiting for the RTPC to allocate funds to retain the planning consultant.
- Requested the Commission for an allocation of \$15-20,000.
- On a motion by Mayor French, seconded by Commissioner Salintro, the Commission voted 6-0 to authorize the Capital Committee to obtain revised responses from two of the responding planning firms that do not exceed \$20,000.

6. Financial & Operations Report

- Bishop Nowotnik reviewed:
 - The Park’s “2013 Budget v Actual” and “2013 v 2012” finances. As of May 31st expenses exceed revenues by \$117,603 and net revenues are \$20,287 less than this same time last year. This is primarily due to the poor weather over Memorial Day.
 - FEMA has increased its reimbursement level from 75% to 90%
 - A safety fence is being installed around the damaged beach wall to protect the public. FEMA will cover 90% these expenses.
 - Staff is preparing a proposal for \$25-30,000 for installing security cameras at the Park
- Fred Gioffre reviewed the highlights of his written report to the Commission:
 - The after 9am “dog problem” has been greatly reduced
 - The use of credit cards has been hampered by the lack of reliability of the computers at the beach and parking lot entrances. With a projected \$750,000 in revenue being handled by

staff, the Commission wants staff to start using credit cards. The Commission is looking for a proposal from staff to resolve this situation immediately. The Commission is prepared to convene a special meeting for this

- Staff is recommending that because it collected only \$245 in beach revenue for the 6 - 7pm time period, it is not worth collecting fees for this time period and that it should stop collection during this time period. The Commission agreed.
- The Commission did not support the replacement of a golf cart that “died” They feel three carts should be adequate.
- The beach is rocky; could use sand
- Seaside Johnnie’s staff parking will be moved off the grass

7. Jarden Triathlon

- The Commission agreed to charge the Triathlon \$3,500 for its September 2013 use of the Park

8. Tree Trimming and Fertilization Proposals

- Bill Lawyer reviewed the two proposals from Bartlett Tree Service: the prices below are only the Rye Town Park portion of the costs.
- On a motion from President Carvin, seconded by Commissioner Salanitro, the Commission voted 6-0 to authorize a contract with Bartlett for soil analysis and fertilization for \$2,010
- On a motion by President Carvin, seconded by Commissioner Salanitro, the Commission voted 6-0 to authorize a contract with Bartlett for tree trimming for \$2,696.58.
- The Friends of RTP have agreed to provide the other half of the funds for each of these contracts

9. Correspondence

- The Commission agreed to the Village of Port Chester’s request to use the Park for its special citizen’s program
- The Commission agreed to the Village of Rye Brook’s request to use the Park at a rate of \$2 per student

10. Old Business/New Business

11. Adjourn

On a motion by Commissioner Salanitro, seconded by Mayor Pagano, the Commission voted 6-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm



**RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION
MINUTES OF JULY 16, 2013 MEETING**

1. Roll call (6:10pm)

Present: Joseph Carvin, Supervisor, Town of Rye - President
Laura Brett, Councilmember, City of Rye
Douglas French, Mayor, City of Rye
Neil Pagano, Mayor, Village of Port Chester
Benedict Salanitro, Commissioner

Absent: Jeff Rosenberg

2. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Goldie Solomon

3. Approval of Minutes:

On a motion by Commissioner Salanitro, seconded by Mayor French, the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the minutes of its April 15th and June 18th meetings.

4. Comments from the Public

- Goldie Solomon
Enjoys concerts...please continue them.

5. Rye Town Park Capital Committee

- The date for revised Planning Consultant RFP (with a \$20,000 cap) is August 15.
- The Commission would like the Capital Committee to submit its recommendation by August 19th so that the Commission could vote on the contract at its August 20th meeting.
- On a motion by Mayor **French**, seconded by **Commissioner Brett**, the Commission voted 5-0 to set November 8th as the deadline for the submission of development proposals.

6. Financial & Operations Report

- Bishop Nowotnik reviewed financial reports in the Commission's packet including:
 - While the current report shows that total revenue at the Park is \$28,739 less than at this same time last year, this year's revenue is understated
 - Wages are running below last year
 - FEMA & unemployment insurance are missing; will be added
 - Will include car counts in the next report
 - The decision by the court that Seaside Johnnies is tax exempt and the Park does not have to pay real estate taxes to the City of Rye
- Fred Gioffre reviewed the highlights of his written report to the Commission:
During the July 4th weekend:
 - Poor water pressure in area led to north bathrooms being closed and portable bathrooms being rented

- Debris on beach occurs at night after Playland Beach is closed and public comes to Oakland Beach after staff leaves; debris is cleaned up every morning
- Parking barriers are at same place for the past three years
- Parking back-up cause by computers going “down” and delay at parking entrance. New computers seem to solve the problem.
- Some problems are caused by wi-fi system; this system could be replaced by “hard-wired” system for \$4,200. On a motion by Commissioner Salanitro, seconded by Commissioner Brett, the Commission voted 5-0 to authorize a contract with Eastland Alarms to hard-wire the computers at the parking entrance and main and south beach gates for \$4,200 using capital funds.

Staff has noticed that there has been a surge of beachgoers after cashiers leave at 7pm
Staff reported that it is upgrading the park’s software to accept credit cards

7. Correspondence

None

8. Old Business/New Business

- The Commission discussed the parking arrangements for Seaside Johnnies four vehicles; there is a concern regarding the safety of park goers as these vehicles move in and out of the park; the Commission directed staff to meet with Seaside Johnnies to work out an arrangement...in the meantime Seaside Johnnies should use the right exit and the barriers should be closed.
- The Commission supported the use of the Park on August 3rd for the American Red Cross’s Blood Drive

9. Adjourn

On a motion by **Commissioner Brett**, seconded by **Mayor Pagano**, the Commission voted 6-0 to adjourn the meeting at pm



**RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION
MINUTES OF August 27, 2013 MEETING**

1. Roll call (6:05pm)

Present: Joseph Carvin, Supervisor, Town of Rye - President
Laura Brett, Councilmember, City of Rye
Douglas French, Mayor, City of Rye
Neil Pagano, Mayor, Village of Port Chester

2. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Goldie Solomon

3. Approval of Minutes 7/16/2013 – Moved over

4. Comments from the Public

- Goldie Solomon
Rye Town Park is special; she especially enjoys the concerts; please have more.

5. Financial & Operations Report

- Park Director Fred Gioffre reviewed the highlights of his written report to the Commission:
 - Parking went well this season
 - Security went well this season except there was a mugging. Thankfully, Rye police acted quickly and arrested the 3 attackers quickly. The Commission discussed the impact that cameras might have as a deterrent and as an aid in identifying problems. The Commission requested staff to present a proposal for installing cameras.
 - The hard wiring of the computers will be finished this week.
 - The two aerators in the pond have improved the quality of the water though they have still required daily attention.
 - The season included seven successful concerts. The Commission would like to have an eighth concert and requested an analysis of the parking revenue generated by the concerts.
 - Since school will not start until September 9th this year, staff requested that the beach remain open until September 8th (one more week than planned) and those with a pass be charged be \$3 and all others be charged \$5. On a motion by Mayor French, seconded by Mayor Pagano, the Commission voted 4-0 to keep the beach open until September 8th. See attached press release.
- Bishop Nowotnik reviewed the financial reports in the Commission's packet including:
 - The Commission noted that although year-to-date revenues exceed expenses, year-to-date revenue is less than last year's and year-to-date expenses are more than last year's.
 - The Commission requested that staff revise the format of the report to make it easier to read.
 - Bishop also reported on the repair of the seawall. While it appears that FEMA will now pay up to 90% of the cost, the Commission has to pay for the work before being reimbursed. This may require the Commission to borrow all or part of the estimated \$324,000 cost.

6. Correspondence

- **Tree Donation – Dwyer**
The Commission accepted the donation of the tree subject to the approval of the Friends of RTP. The Commission requested that Ann Moeller meet with the Dwyer family to review the conditions of a tree donation.
- **Bench Donation – DeGregoriis**
The Commission accepted the donation of the bench subject to the approval of the Friends of RTP. The Commission requested that **Ann Moeller** meet with the DeGregoriis family to review the conditions of a bench donation.
- **High Performance Track Club practice request**
A newly formed Running Club (a 501c3 non-profit) requested approval to use Rye Town Park on Tuesdays and Thursdays from late August to early November as a place for approximately 50 of its members to practice cross country running. The Commission expressed its concern about the wear and tear on the grass and the impact on parking. After reviewing these concerns with the presenters, the Commission, on a motion by Laura Brett – seconded by Mayor French – voted 4-0 to approve the request - on a pilot basis - subject to the Commission’s attorney, Paul Noto, approving the agreement - and subject to the club paying a fee commensurate with other similar users of the Park.
- **Music & Art Festival – September 21 & 22**
Heather Patterson, on behalf of the 2013 Music & Art Festival, requested permission to use the walkway from the Main gate to the north gate from 8:30am to 6pm on September 21st and 22nd for artists to display their work and musicians to perform. They would contribute 30% of artist’s sales to RTP in return for such permission. She also requested permission to use the electrical connections at the lifeguard station and at the north gate. After discussion the event with Heather, the Commission, on a motion by Mayor French seconded by Laura Brett, voted 4-0 to allow the festival to use Rye Town Park as requested subject to staff’s approval of the insurance provided and the Festival’s waiver.
- **Cross Country Meet – October 10th – sponsored by the Resurrection School**
A representative of Resurrection School requested permission to use the Park on October 19th from 3pm to 5pm to have a Cross country Track Meet involving approximately 150 youth. . After reviewing the timetable and size of the meet, the Commission, on a motion by Laura Brett – seconded by Mayor Pagano – voted 4-0 to approve the request subject to the Commission’s attorney, Paul Noto, approving the agreement and subject to staff approving the insurance coverage.
- **Mayor French requested that staff forward the parking data from this season to Rye City’s Advisory Committee, that the Commission maintain communication with Sustainable Playland, that the Commission - in light of the stalled Capital Committee –think of fundraising for incremental improvements to the Administration building as the City of Rye did when fixing up the historic Byrd Homestead.**

7. Adjourn

There not being a quorum present, President Carvin declared the meeting closed at 7:30pm



RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION
Minutes of September 17, 2013 Meeting

1. Roll call (6:05pm)

Present: Joseph Carvin, Supervisor, Town of Rye - President
Paul Rosenberg, Mayor – Village of Rye Neck
Benedict Salanitro, Commissioner
Gene Ceccarelli , Councilmember, Village of Port Chester (Rep. for Mayor Pagano)

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mayor Rosenberg, seconded by Commissioner Salanitro, the minutes of the July 16 and August 27 meeting were approved.

4. Comments from the Public

- Goldie Solomon
Loves going to Oakland Beach and concerts; often standing room only, view and music are “incredible”!
- Linda Wells, Friends of Rye Town Park
Concerts – some have conflicted with concerts at other places;
Tree Survey – Bartlett Tree Service has completed inventory of all trees in park (cost = \$8,000); over 300 trees; report will be available in a few weeks; report will include recommendations on care and maintenance; would like public to know about the inventory
Information Center – will be completed by spring; will include information about Park, events, and the Friends
- Deidre Curran
Tree Survey - Thanks to the Friends for sponsoring the tree survey; would like to see more shade trees added
Information Center - Please add information about who owns and manages the Park and contact information about park personnel
Dogs in Park – Seems as if the enforcement of park rules emphasizes dogs and targets certain dog owners not others; doesn't seem fair;
Maintenance issues – “room for improvement”- examples: cement fell from stantion; garbage dumpsters smell
Fundraising Recommendation – publicize a list of needed park projects; encourage public to donate funds to those projects they are interested in; like a “bridal registry”
Commission would like staff to work on this idea with the Friends of RTP that is a 501c3 tax exempt organization.

5. Capital Committee Report – Town of Rye

Committee received four proposals; developed criteria; reviewed and ranked the proposals; asked firms to reduce their proposals to less than \$20,000; currently recommending the one firm that reduced its proposal to less than \$20,000 which was also the top ranked proposal; many in the community had positive experience with the firm

The Commission thanked the Committee for its hard work; would like to meet with the top two firms; would like to make a final decision at its October meeting

6. Financial & Operations Report

- Park Director Fred Gioffre reviewed the highlights of his written report to the Commission Staff recommends that a new ramp to the beach - using an approach developed by Mark Cassata - be the top priority for off-season improvements.
Will be ready to accept credit cards beginning in 2014
Since there is no staff at the park from November to April to clean up the beach, staff recommends that the gates to the beach be locked to prevent dogs from being on the beach and creating a health hazard. The Friends supports this recommendation.
The Commission discussed the issue of dogs on the beach. The Town of Rye's Attorney, Paul Noto, advised that the Commission that it is responsible for "best efforts" to enforce the "no dogs off leash in park" law and that the City of Rye is responsible for enforcing the "no dogs off leash in the park" law. The Commission requested Attorney Paul Noto to prepare a letter to the City of Rye requesting that - from October to April when there is no park staff - it enforce the law regarding no dogs in the park.
- Assistant Park Director Bill Lawler spoke about the plans the Park has been preparing for fundraising and looks forward to working with the Friends on fundraising. He recommended – and the Commission agreed - that when new park benches are installed they all be the same.

7. FEMA Update

Bishop Nowotnik reviewed the status of FEMA assistance to help repair the damage from Hurricane Sandy. The seawall will cost \$530,000; the RTPC would be responsible for \$324,000; the City of Rye would be responsible to \$206,000. The Town of Rye would have to issue the bonds to finance the repairs because FEMA would reimburse up to 90% of the cost only after the repair are completed

8. Correspondence

None

9. Old Business/New Business

President Carvin encouraged everyone to attend the 7pm "Flashback" presentation on September 30th at the Capitol Theater. (The 4pm presentation is for 4th graders.)

10. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm



RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION
Minutes of October 15, 2013 Meeting

1. Roll call (6:10pm) Present: Joseph Carvin, Supervisor, Town of Rye – President
Laura Brett, (City of Rye)
Neil Pagano, Mayor, Village of Port Chester
Paul Rosenberg, Mayor, Village of Rye Brook
Benedict Salanitro, Rye Neck
2. Pledge of Allegiance – lead by Goldie Solomon
3. Approval of Minutes - On a motion by Mayor Pagano, seconded by Commissioner Salanitro, the minutes of the Commission's September 17 meeting were approved.
4. Comments from the Public
Goldie Solomon - thanked Fred Gioffre and Bill Lawyer for helping to make the beach and park great; requested the Commission to support more concerts
5. Presentation on Planning Services
Frank Fish, from the firm Buckhurst, Fish, Jacquemart, described the services BFJ would carry out if selected to help the Commission market the Development RFP for Rye Town Park and evaluate the responses. On a motion by Commissioner Salanitro, seconded by Commissioner Brett, the Commission approved a contract with BFJ for an amount not to exceed \$20,000. The Capital Committee will work closely with BFJ to move the RFP process along.
6. Financial & Operations Report
Park Director Fred Gioffre reviewed the highlights of his written report to the Commission. The City of Rye's Parking Committee will receive information on this season's car counts from Bishop Nowotnik.
7. Purchase of Dumpsters
Pending the results of the RFP for the Development of the Park, the Commission decided to not purchase any new dumpsters at this time; staff will look into renting dumpsters.
8. Correspondence
 - A. Seaside Johnnies – Pending the results of the RFP for the Development of the Park, the Commission decided to not extend Seaside Johnnies lease at this time
 - B. NAMI – The Commission approved NAMI's use of the park on May 17, 2014 for a fee of \$500
 - C. Permits for the Rye City and Port Chester/Rye Brook Chamber of Commerce – The Commission approved a donation of 1 family Beach permit to each Chamber for their fundraisers
9. Old Business/New Business - none
10. Adjourn – On a motion by Mayor Rosenberg, seconded by Mayor Pagano, the Commission voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:15pm



RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION
Minutes of November 19, 2013 Meeting

1. Roll call (6pm) Present: William Villanova, Deputy Supervisor, Town of Rye (for Joseph Carvin) – Presiding
Neil Pagano, Mayor, Village of Port Chester
Paul Rosenberg, Mayor, Village of Rye Brook
Joseph Sack, Councilmember, City of Rye (for Laura Brett)
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Minutes – Put Over
4. Comments from the Public - None
5. Financial & Operations Report
Bill Lawyer, Assistant Director for Park Development, reviewed the highlights of his report to the Commission:
 - Except for early morning hours, dogs have not been on the beach
 - A commercial photo shoot recently completed its work; a fee was paid; this is an example of the kind of off-season income that the Park is seeking to obtain
6. Presentation of 2012 Audit Report
 - Bishop Nowotnik reviewed some of the finding of the Audit Report
 - For the first time in at more than 20 years, the Park produced an operating surplus of \$1346 despite revenues \$24,017 below budget. Expenses came in \$25,363 below budget with the key item being labor costs coming in \$22,393 below budget.
 - However, when net capital expenses are added, there was a \$28,006 deficit; \$17,006 was provided by the Town of Rye; \$11,000 was provided by the City of Rye.
7. Correspondence
 - A non-resident permit holder from Ossining wrote to thank the Commission for providing an enjoyable public beach
8. Old Business/New Business
 - Staff met with BFJ Planners on site in preparation for issuing an RFP for the development of the Park
 - Staff will meet with City of Rye officials on November 22 to discuss the reconstruction of the sea wall. The repairs are estimated to cost \$600,000. FEMA will reimburse the Town and City for the costs after they are completed. The City and Town will have to make arrangements to pay the expenses first and then get reimbursed
 - Re: security cameras – staff has not completed researching the options
9. Adjourn
On a motion by Mayor Rosenberg, seconded by Mayor Pagano, the Commission voted 4-0 to adjourn the meeting at 6:25pm



RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION
Minutes of December 17, 2013 Meeting

1. Present:

Joseph Carvin, Supervisor, Town of Rye - Chair
William Villanova, Deputy Supervisor, Town of Rye, (representing Supervisor Carvin upon his departure)
Laura Brett, Commissioner
Douglas French, Mayor, City of Rye
Paul Rosenberg, Mayor, Village of Rye Brook
Benedict Salanitro, Commissioner

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Minutes

The Commission on a motion by Commissioner Salanitro, seconded by Commissioner Brett, voted of 5-0 to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 15, 2013 subject to correcting Mayor Rosenberg's Village to Rye "Brook" not Rye "Neck." The minutes of the November 2013 meeting were put over.

4. Comments from the Public

Linda Wells, President of the Friends of Rye Town Park, updated the Commission on the:

- a. New Information Center – it is proceeding
- b. Tree inventory. Bartlett completed preliminary report. In summary::
 - 1) 31 trees; 58 species mostly maples
 - 2) 71% are rated fair to poor
 - 3) 38% have reached their growth potential
 - 4) Value of trees is \$2 million
 - 5) 10 trees are valued at \$24,000 each
 - 6) 33 trees recommended for removal over the next three years; 14 should be removed now; 2 dead trees
- c. Bench Replacement Program. The FRTP have identified a product and color that it feels will work the best. Will provide the Commission with a complete report at its next meeting. Plans to publicize the opportunity for donors to adopt and fund a bench. A nameplate would be installed.

5. Capital Committee Update – Frank Fish (Buckhurst, Fish and Jacquemart)

Frank Fish reviewed the highlights of his firm's preliminary report.

BFJ proposes to meet with Capital Committee in January. His firm plans to help the Committee:

- Revise the RFP – identify acceptable uses; include offer for at least a 20 year license agreement
- Develop a list of potential developers – "cast a wide net"
- Issue the RFP in February (recommends placing an ad with the Urban Land Institute)
- Conduct a site visit in March - responses due in April
- Review responses and select finalists
- Interview the finalists
- Participate in the interviews and ranking of the proposals
- Make its final recommendations to the Commission

At some time in the future an environmental review of the proposal that the Commission plans to approve will be needed.

The Commission, on a motion by Laura Brett, seconded by Mayor Rosenberg, voted 5-0 approved the cost of advertising the RFP with Urban Land Institute for \$695.

Chairman Joseph Carvin spoke about the impact of the possible dissolution of the Town of Rye on the Park and the RFP process. A meeting will be held January 9th, 2014 to review the status of the dissolution and its impact on the RFP.

6. Financial & Operations Report

Bill Lawyer, Assistant Director for Park Development, reviewed the highlights of his report to the Commission:

- Finalizing policies and rules regarding dogs
- Working on Rye Town Park Operations Manual
- Designing a New Park Map
- Next event is "Polar Bear Swim" on January 1
- Future fundraising activities

7. Discussion Item – Trash Dumpsters vs Trash Compactor

The Commission discussed the alternatives available to store trash in a way that minimizes noise, odors and health concerns. The Commission requested that Park personnel meet with Seaside Johnnies, the Village of Port Chester and the City of Rye to develop a low-cost recommendation for presentation to the Commission at its January meeting.

8. Correspondence

Bishop updated the Commission on the January 1st swim of the Polar Bear Club. It is expected to attract about 200 people; no fee is being charged.

9. Old Business/New Business

Mayor French, on behalf of the City of Rye recommended that it and the Town of Rye designate funds - in their respective budgets that were set aside for RTP but not used - for future Park needs. Both municipalities will look into adopting compatible resolutions.

Mayor French requested that the Commission consider expanding the number of Commissioners to include another representative from the City of Rye and a representative from the Village of Mamaroneck.

Mayor French requested that the Commission, when reviewing the Park's lease with Seaside Johnnies, consider the restaurant's impact on the City of Rye.

Attorney Paul Noto updated the Commission on the actions of the City of Rye regarding the real estate tax certiorari proceeding involving Seaside Johnnies. The City of Rye has not complied with the court's ruling and seems to be appealing the court's decision.

Supervisor Joseph Carvin presented Mayor French - this being his last RTPC meeting - with a proclamation recognizing his service on the Commission.

10. Adjourn

On a motion by Mayor Rosenberg, seconded by Commissioner Brett, the Commission voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting.