



**RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of January 28, 2014 Meeting**

1. Present:

Hon. Joseph Carvin, Supervisor, Town of Rye – Chair  
Hon. Neil Pagano, Mayor, Village of Port Chester  
Hon. Paul Rosenberg, Mayor, Village of Rye Brook  
Hon. Joseph Sack, Mayor, City of Rye

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Executive Session

On a motion by Mayor Sack, seconded by Mayor Rosenberg, the Commission voted 4-0 to move into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.

Hiring of Attorney

After returning from Executive Session, the Commission – on a motion by Mayor Pagano seconded by Mayor Rosenberg – voted 3-0-1 (Mayor Sack abstained) to approve the hiring of Paul Noto as the attorney for the Commission at an hourly rate of \$250 with a maximum compensation of \$10,000.

3. Appointments to the Rye Town Park Commission

Mayor Sack reported that he and Laura Brett would represent the City of Rye  
Supervisor Carvin reported that he and Benedict Salanitro would represent the Town of Rye

4. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mayor Pagano, seconded by Mayor Sack, the Commission voted 4-0 to approve the minutes from its 11/18/13.  
The minutes of the Commission's 12/17/14 were put over

5. Comments from the Public

Linda Wells, President of the Friends of Rye Town Park, expressed the Friends interest in working with the Northeast Divers on the May 17 clean-up and updated the Commission on the status of the beach replacement project.

On January 17 the Friends conducted an inventory of the benches at the Park.

As a result the Friends intends to replace 19 existing cement and wood benches and add 5 more benches for a total of 24 benches. Each new bench will be 8'. Any plaque that is currently attached to a bench that is to be replaced will be moved to one of the new benches. Some of the old benches will be relocated to the area around showers and rest rooms. After a representative from the bench company advises the Friends on the cost of installing a bench, the Friends will have a good idea of the total cost of purchasing and installing a new bench and can start a fund raising campaign. The Commission thanked the Friends for all their hard worked and looked forward to helping it with this important project.

6. Capital Committee Update

After a brief presentation by Sarah Yakal, consultant, Buckhurst Fish Jacquemart, the Commission – on a motion by Mayor Rosenberg, seconded by Mayor Pagano – voted 4-0 to authorize the release of the Park Development RFP with the following dates:

January 31, 2014 – Release date  
March 14, 2014 – Site visit  
April 4, 2014 – RFP responses due

7. Northeast Divers

The Commission heard a presentation from Northeast Divers requesting Commission support for its planned May 17, 2014 (Saturday) clean-up of Playland Beach and Rye Beach. Playland has already approved the group's clean-up of Playland. The group has cleaned up Orchard Beach in the Bronx, for the past four years and would like to clean up Playland Beach and Rye Beach this year. The group expects to have over 200 people – including divers in the water and people policing the shoreline. The trash that is collected would be separated into recyclables and garbage. The Commission expressed its support of the project and will help in “getting the word out.” Park Director Fred Gioffre and Assistant Park Director, Bill Lawyer were charged to work with the organizers and facilitate Rye Town Park's participation.

8. Financial & Operations Report

Bishop Nowotnik reviewed the FY2013 **Unaudited** financial report and confirmed that 2013 was a difficult season due to inclement weather, and that the 2014 Draft budget will be presented to the Commission at its February meeting.

Bill Lawyer updated the Commission on the status of the locator map and the maintenance of the pond

9. Correspondence

Moved over to next meeting

10. Old Business

Moved over to next meeting

11. New Business

Moved over to next meeting

12. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15pm.



**RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of March 3, 2014 Meeting**

1. Roll call at 6:30pm.

Present:

Hon. William Villanova Deputy Supervisor, Town of Rye – Presiding  
Laura Brett, Commissioner  
Hon. Paul Rosenberg, Mayor, Village of Rye Brook  
Benedict Salanitro, Commissioner

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mayor Rosenberg, seconded by Laura Brett, the Commission voted 4-0 to approve the minutes of its 1/21/14 meeting. The minutes of the Commission's 12/17/14 meeting were put over.

4. Comments from the Public

Linda Wells, President of the Friends of Rye Town Park.

- Family Movie Night – “Goonies” scheduled for July 14; Carpet Trans has agreed to sponsor
- Bench Replacement Project – Will be meeting with a representative of the bench company soon to finalize bench type and price; will then start campaign to obtain donations
- Sprinklers – will be meeting with representative to see if there are more areas in the park that can be sprinkled so that more plantings can be added
- Tree Replacement – based on the recent survey the budget for this year should include funds to remove trees

5. Draft 2014 Budget and Fee Schedule

Bishop Nowotnik reviewed the income and expense in the proposed 2014 operating budget.

Staff is recommending that the Fee Structure remain the same as last year. On a motion by Laura Brett, seconded by Mayor Rosenberg, the Commission voted 4-0 to approve the proposed 2014 Fee schedule.

The Commission discussed the “Unemployment Insurance” expense. In light of the jobs at the Park being “seasonal,” the Commission requested staff to select – whenever possible - good employees who would not be filing for unemployment insurance after working at the Park. Staff may provide the Commission with a form for employees to sign when they are hired that affirms their understanding that the job is “seasonal.” The Commission moved the decision on this item to its next meeting.

Bishop Nowotnik reviewed the capital budget. There are four high priority items in this year's budget:

- New Middle Beach Ramp – estimated cost of \$64,000
- New Middle Beach Booth – Estimated cost of \$16,000
- Security Cameras – estimated cost of \$25,000
- New benches – estimated cost \$7,000

The Commission moved the decision on the capital budget to its next meeting.

6. Correspondence

The Commission reviewed letters from Doug French, former Mayor of Rye and Buckhurst, Fish and Jacquemart. The letter from BJB updated the Commission on the status of the RFP for development at Rye Town Park. The RFP was issued on January 30<sup>th</sup>. Two responses have come in. There will be a site visits on March 14 and 28.

## 7. Old Business

- Commissioner Salanitro updated the Commission on the status of the dumpsters used by Seaside Johnnies. The goal is to replace the existing, uncovered dumpsters with ones that are closed and to increase the frequency of the pick-ups. Commissioner Salanitro will be meeting with representatives of Seaside Johnnies shortly and will report to the Commission at its next meeting.
- Bishop Nowotnik briefly reviewed a proposal to revise the funding of capital projects whereby the Rye City and the Town of Rye would include a fixed capital amount in their respective budgets and transfer those amounts to the Park whether the funds were used in that year or not. The Commission moved discussion on this item to its next meeting.

## 8. New Business

- Mayor Rosenberg inquired about the status of hiring staff for the 2014 season. Staff reported that it will begin advertising for employees in mid-March and will make clear in all advertising and on the application that the jobs are “seasonal.”
- Commissioner Brett inquired about opening day of pre-season at the park. Staff reported that pre-season will start in mid-April. She requested that it be formally set, publically announced include any conditions.
- Commissioner Salanitro alerted the Commission that Westchester County will be starting a sewer project that will go through the park. He recommended that new tree plantings and bench installations be delayed until it is clear how and when the project will disrupt the operation of the Park.

## 9. Adjourn

On a motion by Commissioner Salanitro, seconded by Commissioner Brett, the Commission voted 4-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm.



**RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of March 18, 2014 Meeting**

1. Present:

Joseph Carvin, Supervisor, Town of Rye – Chair  
Neil Pagano, Commissioner & Mayor – Village of Port Chester  
Laura Brett, Commissioner  
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 4-0 to approve the minutes of the meeting of December 17, 2013.

The Commission on a motion by Commissioner Brett, seconded by Commissioner Pagano, voted of 4-0 to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 3, 2014.

4. Comments from the Public

Goldie Solomon – Praised Rye Town Park and asked for more Concerts. She also suggested all signs in Rye Town Park be in English and Spanish

Anne Moeller- Representing the Friends of Rye Town Park updated the Commission on the bench program. The FORTP is awaiting an imminent meeting with the Manufacturers Rep. to get installation and costing guidance before pricing the program bringing it to the public. The Commission has agreed to purchase as many as 5 benches that have already been previously dedicated and have deteriorated; now needing replacement.

Also, The FORTP is sponsoring again the MOVIE IN THE PARK program that was so successful last year. The date is Monday, July 14, 2014 with a rain date of Monday, July 21, 2014. The Title of the movie is “Goonies”. Westchester County staff will be setting up the screen and projection equipment. RTP staff will assist in area preparations and extra security staffing and cleanup. She also asked for reduced parking for the evening and for Parking staff to hand out flyers promoting the event.

5. 2014 Budget – Supervisor Carvin summarized the 2014 Budget Plan as increasing projected revenues \$43,017 over the prior year; \$891,777 vs \$848,760. Also, increasing projected expenses \$39,857. He noted this produces a balanced Operating budget before Capital. Capital expenses are budgeted at \$112,000 vs prior year actuals of \$44,336. He reminded the Commissioners that the 2013 year performance was impacted by adverse holiday weather and that this impacted revenues and that the only real control Park staff has is over expenses. The Commissioners then questioned staff on various aspects of the budget:

- Staff Increases & New Minimum Wage Law impacts
- Unemployment Insurance costs and strategies
- Permit revenue and process of mailing
- Professional Fees and the legal defense costs of Rye City Certiorari appeal
- Operations & Maintenance costs

Motion to approve the Operating budget at revenue of \$891,777 and expenses of \$898,527 was made by Commissioner Salanitro and seconded by Commissioner Pagano. Vote was 4-0 in favor.

- 6 Capital Projects were reviewed and modified substantially: Total = \$132,000
- Provide for Lighting around Duck Pond - \$27,500
  - ADA Compliant Middle Beach Ramp and New Booth - \$80,000
  - 392 cu.yd. new sand for southern end of beach - \$17,500
  - 5 new park benches @ \$1400 ea. - \$7,000

Motion made by Commissioner Brett to authorize sand purchase and hire Architect to design Middle Booth and replacement ramp; seconded by Commissioner Pagano. Vote was 4-0 in favor.  
Balance of Capital Budget approval was put over until next meeting.

- 7 Commissioner Salanitro reviewed discussions with Ambrose concerning proposed changes to trash removal at the Park. He suggested using smaller covered containers and having daily pickups. Also discussed was recycling options.
- 8 Manager's Report - Bill Lawyer, Assistant Director for Park Development, reviewed the highlights of his report to the Commission. He presented a draft of the Code of Conduct for the Park employees. Motion to approve the Code of Conduct, as amended, made by Commissioner Pagano, seconded by Commissioner Brett. Vote was 4-0 in favor.
- 9 Next Meeting date was changed by mutual agreement to April 24<sup>th</sup> at 6PM
- 10 Correspondence –

Beach Volleyball was approved at \$20.00 per participant, including parking.  
County Sewer relocation project will conduct borings within the Park.

- 11 Adjourn

**DRAFT**



**RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION  
Minutes of March 17, 2014 Meeting**

1. Present:

Joseph Carvin, Supervisor, Town of Rye – Chair  
Neil Pagano, Commissioner & Mayor – Village of Port Chester  
Laura Brett, Commissioner  
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 4-0 to approve the minutes of the meeting of December 17, 2013.

The Commission on a motion by Commissioner Brett, seconded by Commissioner Pagano, voted of 4-0 to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 3, 2014.

4. Comments from the Public

Goldie Solomon – Praised Rye Town Park and asked for more Concerts. She also suggested all signs in Rye Town Park be in English and Spanish

Anne Moeller- Representing the Friends of Rye Town Park updated the Commission on the bench program. The FORTP is awaiting an imminent meeting with the Manufacturers Rep. to get installation and costing guidance before pricing the program bringing it to the public. The Commission has agreed to purchase as many as 5 benches that have already been previously dedicated and have deteriorated; now needing replacement.

Also, The FORTP is sponsoring again the MOVIE IN THE PARK program that was so successful last year. The date is Monday, July 14, 2014 with a rain date of Monday, July 21, 2014. The Title of the movie is "Goonies". Westchester County staff will be setting up the screen and projection equipment. RTP staff will assist in area preparation and extra security staffing and cleanup. She also asked for reduced parking for the evening and for Parking staff to hand out flyers promoting the event.

5. 2014 Budget – Supervisor Carvin summarized the 2014 Budget Plan as increasing projected revenues \$43,017 over the prior year; \$891,777 vs \$848,760. Also, increasing projected expenses \$39,857. He noted this produces a balanced Operating budget before Capital. Capital expenses are budgeted at \$112,000 vs prior year actuals of \$44,336. He reminded the Commissioners that the 2013 year performance was impacted by adverse holiday weather and that this impacted revenues and that the only real control Park staff has is over expenses. The Commissioners then questioned staff on various aspects of the budget:

- Staff Increases & New Minimum Wage Law impacts
- Unemployment Insurance costs and strategies
- Permit revenue and process of mailing
- Professional Fees and the legal defense costs of Rye City Certiorari appeal
- Operations & Maintenance costs
- Capital Projects were reviewed and modified substantially:

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6.

7. Capital Committee Update –

8. Manager's 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

9. 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.

10. Correspondence

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

11. 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.

12. Adjourn

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



**RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of April 24, 2014 Meeting**

1. Present:

Joseph Carvin, Supervisor, Town of Rye – Chair  
Laura Brett, Commissioner  
John Slack, representing Commissioner Joe Sack  
Paul Rosenberg, Commissioner & Mayor of Rye Brook  
Benedict Salanitro, Commissioner

Absent: Neil Pagano, Commissioner & Mayor – Village of Port Chester

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Minutes

The Commission on a motion by Commissioner Brett, seconded by Commissioner Salanitro, voted of 5-0 to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 18, 2014. Slack abstained.

4. Capital Budget was discussed and reviewed. The commissioners settled on the Capital Budget attached. Motion to approve the Capital Budget, as modified to include Priority A items totaling \$121,240, was made by Commissioner Salanitro, seconded by Commissioner Brett was approved 5-0.

5. Tree removal Bids were reviewed by William Lawyer. He reviewed the classification work of Bartlett Tree Services which recommended 33 trees requiring removal. These were further classified into 14 as Priority 1, requiring immediate attention. He developed this further by splitting the bid into two sections Priority A removal (8 trees) as they presented public safety dangers. The remaining Priority B (6 trees) could be removed later as they presented less danger. He reviewed the six bids provided and recommended Central Tree Service of Rye City. Motion was made by Commissioner seconded by Commissioner to award the work to Central Tree Service Priority A for \$9,125.00 and Priority B for \$5050.00 . Vote to approve was 5-0.

6. Linda Wells of the Friends of Rye Town Park came up to review the Tree Inventory they had commissioned Bartlett Tree Service. She offered to share this Tree Condition Report with the Commission if they wished. She then went on to support the tree removal as approved.

7. Comments from the Public

Goldie Solomon – Praised Rye Town Park and asked for more Concerts. She also suggested all signs in Rye Town Park be in English and Spanish

Anne Moeller- Representing the Friends of Rye Town Park updated the Commission on the bench program. The FORTP is awaiting an imminent meeting with the Manufacturers Rep. to get installation and costing guidance before pricing the program bringing it to the public. The Commission has agreed to purchase as many as 5 benches that have already been previously dedicated and have deteriorated; now needing replacement.

Also, The FORTP is sponsoring again the MOVIE IN THE PARK program that was so successful last year. The date is Monday, July 14, 2014 with a rain date of Monday, July 21, 2014. The Title of the movie is “Goonies”. Westchester County staff will be setting up the screen and projection equipment. RTP staff will assist in area

preparation and extra security staffing and cleanup. She also asked for reduced parking for the evening and for Parking staff to hand out flyers promoting the event.

8. 2014 Budget – Supervisor Carvin summarized the 2014 Budget Plan as increasing projected revenues \$43,017 over the prior year; \$891,777 vs \$848,760. Also, increasing projected expenses \$39,857. He noted this produces a balanced Operating budget before Capital. Capital expenses are budgeted at \$112,000 vs prior year actuals of \$44,336. He reminded the Commissioners that the 2013 year performance was impacted by adverse holiday weather and that this impacted revenues and that the only real control Park staff has is over expenses. The Commissioners then questioned staff on various aspects of the budget:
  - Staff Increases & New Minimum Wage Law impacts
  - Unemployment Insurance costs and strategies
  - Permit revenue and process of mailing
  - Professional Fees and the legal defense costs of Rye City Certiorari appeal
  - Operations & Maintenance costs
  - Capital Projects were reviewed and modified substantially:

9. Capital Committee Update –

10. Manager’s 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

11. 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.

12. Correspondence

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

13. 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.

14. Adjourn

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



**RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of April 24, 2014 Meeting**

1. Present:

Joseph Carvin, Supervisor, Town of Rye – Chair  
Laura Brett, Commissioner  
John Slack, representing Commissioner Joe Sack  
Paul Rosenberg, Commissioner & Mayor of Rye Brook  
Benedict Salanitro, Commissioner

Absent: Neil Pagano, Commissioner & Mayor – Village of Port Chester

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Minutes

The Commission on a motion by Commissioner Brett, seconded by Commissioner Salanitro, voted of 5-0 to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 18, 2014. Slack abstained.

4. Capital Budget was discussed and reviewed. The commissioners settled on the Capital Budget attached. Motion to approve the Capital Budget, as modified to include Priority A items totaling \$121,240, was made by Commissioner Salanitro, seconded by Commissioner Brett was approved 5-0.

5. Tree removal Bids were reviewed by William Lawyer. He reviewed the classification work of Bartlett Tree Services which recommended 33 trees requiring removal. These were further classified into 14 as Priority 1, requiring immediate attention. He developed this further by splitting the bid into two sections Priority A removal (8 trees) as they presented public safety dangers. The remaining Priority B (6 trees) could be removed later as they presented less danger. He reviewed the six bids provided and recommended Central Tree Service of Rye City. Motion was made by Commissioner Rosenberg, seconded by Commissioner Brett, to award the work to Central Tree Service Priority A for \$9,125.00 to be done immediately, and Priority B for \$5050.00 to be done at a later date subject to budget availability. Vote to approve was 5-0.

6. Linda Wells of the Friends of Rye Town Park came up to review the Tree Inventory they had commissioned Bartlett Tree Service. She offered to share this Tree Condition Report with the Commission if they wished. She then went on to support the tree removal as approved.

7. Frank Fish provided a status update as to the Development/Operating RFP. He provided a timetable for potential implementation, and reminded the Commission that bids were due the next day.

8. Comments from the Public

Sandy Guido from Rye spoke to the unleashed dog issue and described how her husband was knocked down by a large unleashed dog. She complained that the leash law was not being enforced by Rye PD at Rye Town Park. Commissioner Brett assured her that this was not so and the Rye PD has been charged with enforcing said law. Commissioner Carvin exhibited his frustration that the unleashed dog issue has continued for his entire administration. He suggested that Rye City needs to come up with a better solution. Fred Gioffre suggested that summons be issued for loose dogs early in the season to get the message out that dogs must be leashed.

Linda Wells from The Friends of Rye Town Park and presented and reviewed the new “Locator Map” for the new information Kiosk they built. She described the various aspects of the Map and indicated the final version was expected to be installed by the time the season begins.

She also confirmed they are finalizing the pricing of the new benches and a promotional brochure for soliciting donations for as many as 20 benches.

Angel Rosado and Mike McCord from the Sound Shore Youth Foundation outlined their request for permission to hold Monday night Volleyball. They explained their organization is a 501©3 organization that provides and supports youth football, flag football and cheerleading throughout the sound shore area from Mamaroneck up through Rye Brook for ages 6 to 13.

They explained how the Adult Volleyball program was actually a fundraiser for the kids program. The funds from the Volleyball program help buy equipment, pay referees, and secure field space.

Nowotnik reviewed the fee was \$20 per player which included parking. The revenue to RTP for the 2013 season was over \$7000 based on over 350 players. Gioffre confirmed the program was operated very professionally and there were no problems.

9. Correspondence – Put off to next meeting

10. Old Business/New Business

Brett asked to schedule a “Community Conversation” for Saturday May 31<sup>st</sup> from 10AM to 12noon.

Brett asked about cashier system being ready for credit cards. Fanelli indicated would be ready for opening day. Brett also commented on the security plan for last season having worked well and confirmed it would be similar this year.

Salanitro reviewed the potential of a new trash/garbage handling plan at RTP. He is leaning towards purchasing smaller containers to provide more flexibility. He suggested a meeting with Rye City & Port Chester DPW’s to better define the sharing opportunity. Salanitro suggested drafting a letter to Seaside Johnnies indicating changes in recycling and garbage handling will be required.

Brett also asked if safety records could be provided to the Rye Town Park Advisory Committee.

Brett asked that the seat vacated by Kristina Bicher be filled by another volunteer from Rye City.

Salanitro has located a local surveyor to perform a survey after the new sand is delivered and spread. This survey is required for any FEMA reimbursement.

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



**RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of May 20, 2014 Meeting**

1. Present:

Joseph Carvin, Supervisor, Town of Rye – Chair  
Laura Brett, Commissioner  
Julie Killian, representing Commissioner Joe Sack  
Paul Rosenberg, Commissioner & Mayor of Rye Brook  
Neil Pagano, Commissioner & Mayor – Village of Port Chester

Excused: Benedict Salanitro, Commissioner

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Minutes

The Commission on a motion by Commissioner Rosenberg, seconded by Commissioner Brett, voted of 5-0 to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 20, 2014. Slack abstained.

4. Frank Fish of BFJ Planning updated the Commission regarding the single response received related to the Rye Town Park Operating RFP. The Commissioners expressed their disappointment and decided not to pursue the response due to a lack of competitiveness. On a motion by Commissioner Rosenberg, seconded by Commissioner Brett the Commission voted 5-0 to reject the proposal submitted by American Transit Host Corp. due to the lack of competitive bids.

5. The 2014 Budget update that resulted from the changes to the projected capital plan was approved 5-0 on a motion by Commissioner Brett, seconded by Commissioner Pagano. This confirmed the Capital budget at \$121,240 and projects an Operating Loss \$6,750 for the 2014 season.

6. Fred Gioffre reviewed the Park Management report. Trash handling was a key item. Smaller containers have been suggested by Commissioner Salanitro. Also suggested was a letter to Starfish Grill asking them to obtain their own containers and handle their own food waste commercially. Fred also reviewed the preparations for the Beach opening; computer system now able to take credit cards at all stations, new employee code of conduct was announced and distributed to all employees at the orientation session on 5/17. 14 trailer loads of new sand were distributed from the Dearborn seawall up to the Seaside Johnnies restaurant and eight trees were removed, leaving six more trees to be taken down, perhaps at the end of the season.

Bill Lawyer updated the Commission regarding the various concert and activities going on in the park during the pre-season and currently scheduled. He confirmed that the Shakespeare in the Park was not going to repeat this year, at their request.

7. Comments from the Public:

Town of Rye Councilman Villanova shared his opinions on the employee orientation held on 5/17, and indicated it was well attended and quite thorough. He also asked for an update to the Dearborn Seawall repairs. Nowotnik indicated that Rye City was the lead agency handling that repair project and there has been little progress. Commissioner Brett volunteered to follow up.

Goldie Solomon – Enjoys Oakland Beach and the concerts and wants more of them.

Julie Killian asked about food trucks and other vendors in the Park. Nowotnik reviewed the current agreement with Seaside Johnnies whereby he pays the park a fee to have exclusive rights to sell food within the Park. Exceptions are made for the various fund raising groups and walks held throughout the season.

8. On a motion by Commissioner Pagano, seconded by Commissioner Rosenberg, the Commission approved the selection of George Mottarella, a certified engineer, to survey the entire beach and provide this information in FEMA acceptable form, for the cost of \$2000. FEMA now requires such a survey in order to calculate any sand losses and beach remediation work. This project would then provide the baseline beach sand levels in the event there was further storm erosion in the future.
9. On a motion by Commissioner Pagano, seconded by Commissioner Rosenberg, the Commission approved the selection of Easton Architects to design a new ADA compliant Middle Beach entrance ramp along with a new Cashier Booth for the cost of \$10,000. This cost includes engineering and construction supervision.
10. Correspondence:  
The concept of a Veterans/Handicapped discounted permit rate was put off to be discussed and reviewed for the following year.  
A special permit request for a former Park Director to visit the Park during a two week period has been requested. This was tabled until next meeting.

11. Old Business/New Business - None

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



**RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of June 17, 2014 Meeting**

1. Present:

Joseph Carvin, Chairman & Supervisor - Town of Rye  
Joe Sack, Commissioner & Mayor – Rye City  
Paul Rosenberg, Commissioner & Mayor - Rye Brook  
Neil Pagano, Commissioner & Mayor – Village of Port Chester  
Benedict Salanitro, Commissioner  
Laura Brett, Commissioner

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Minutes

The Commission on a motion by Commissioner Brett, seconded by Commissioner Pagano, voted of 5-0 to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 20, 2014. Commissioner Sack abstained.

4. Comments from the Public:-

Goldie Solomon Praised the Commission for having seven concerts this year at Rye Town Park/Oakland Beach. They are well attended and appreciated by the people that experience them. She also reminded the Commissioners that there are very many children in the park and that loose dogs present a danger as many small children are afraid of dogs and for those that aren't, as they try to pet the animals there could be danger of dog bites.

Anne Moeller from the Friends of Rye Town Park reminded the Commission of the upcoming "Movie Night in the Park" on Monday July 14<sup>th</sup>, with a rain date of July 21<sup>st</sup>. The Movie is titled "GOONIES" and will begin about 8:40PM on the north lawn by the north snack bar. People are advised to bring their own blankets and chairs about 7:00PM. There will be a Balloon entertainer for the kids about that time. RTP staff will provide assistance with setup and cleanup.

5. Fred Gioffre reviewed the Park Management report. (copy is attached for the record)

6. Bill Lawyer updated the Commission on park development activities

New Tractor Proposal – Staff presented its case to the Commission regarding the recent failure of our 26 year old tractor that pulls the Sand Rake cleaning equipment. Commissioner Carvin recommended staff explore sharing a tractor purchase with Playland. Gioffre has already arranged with Playland for emergency assistance with cleaning the waterline of our beach until such time as we resolve the tractor issue. Commissioner Pagano suggested we consider adding a Front End Loader to the bid. Staff has suggested the Commission revise the capital plan to defer the \$25,000 Security Camera project to next year, and apply those funds to the purchase of a new Tractor.

Commissioner Sack indicated that this presented a terrific shared services opportunity. Commissioner Salanitro suggested staff poll all of our local communities to see if we could borrow a spare or coordinate sharing an appropriate piece of equipment. His concern was pushing off the security cameras project deferred any protection against vandalism.

Commissioner Rosenberg suggested staff follow up on the concept of buying under "Best Value" pricing that would allow for buying under other state contracts. He also suggested short term rental as an option. Staff agreed to explore all suggested options including renting for the short term.

7. Proposed Modifications to Rye City Leash Law:-

Commissioner Brett reviewed a power-point presentation regarding the history and recent events regarding loose dogs in Rye Town Park. She highlighted current signage in the park that could be misleading. She also highlighted the current Rye City law that requires dogs to be on leash throughout the city. She also confirmed that there has been longstanding off-leash use in Rye Town Park for 20 years or more. She recommended that specific off leash hours be established for Rye Town Park. The Rye City Council decided to set up public hearings regarding changing the Rye City leash laws to allow these off leash hours. She reviewed the experience of New York City with the changes they made to allow dogs off leash in certain parks and for certain hours. She then presented a variety of logistical and operational issues related to the issue.

Commissioner Sack echoed support for the presentation and reinforced his opinion that this would balance the needs of the various user groups and reduce conflict. He indicated Rye City would take into account the feelings of the Commission before taking action.

Commissioner Rosenberg supported the concept and suggested there be more input and buy-in by the dog user groups. Commissioner Pagano asked if the proposed law was specific to Rye Town Park or would apply to other parks in Rye City. Commissioner Brett indicated other locations in Rye City would be considered. Pagano apprised the Commission of the proposed new Dog Park being established in the Village of Port Chester and that this was driven by local dog owners since Village of Port Chester does not allow off leash dogs in any public areas. He cited his concerns that having limited off leash hours would erode over time into dogs off leash anytime unless enforced.

Commissioner Carvin cited his concerns that off leash in Rye Town Park may not be the correct solution. He felt that having a fenced in area was the only sure way to protect the public from unleashed dogs. He suggested the Commission form a committee be formed to help the Commission come up with an acceptable solution to all.

Goldie Solomon indicated that Rye Town Park/Oakland Beach was for adults and children, not dogs. She highlighted potential increased liability and sanitary issues related to unleashed dogs. She suggested that Rye City look into setting up its own Dog Park similar to what Village of Port Chester is doing.

David Rassmussen of the Friends of Rye Town Park suggested that the Rye City public hearings might not reflect the complete public viewpoint as Rye Brook, Port Chester and Mamaroneck residents might not be in the information loop. Commissioner Sack refuted those arguments and reminded everyone that Public Hearings are open to the general public from anywhere, including those villages.

Linda Wells from the Friends of Rye Town Park raised a variety of logistic issues and suggested that Rye Town Park might be too small for off leash activity and could not be compared to NYC's Central Park. She suggested that a fenced in area would be the safest way of providing access to dogs and protecting people. She highlighted the need for consistency and enforcement whatever the policy.

Ed Vitti reminded the Commission that he lost his job over an unleashed dog incident. He felt his termination was unwarranted.

Carvin reiterated the need for a committee to provide informed input and arrive at a consensus solution. Laura Brett volunteered to chair the committee. Commission Salanitro agreed to serve as well. Carvin suggested that Gioffre, Lawyer, and Nowotnik represent the Park and the Friends of Rye Town Park also be represented. Brett and Salanitro would agree on dog owner representatives to flesh out the committee.

8. The commission agreed to table the Special Permit request and the Seaside Johnnies request for a lease extension until the next meeting

9. Kim Darcy presented her exercise program for expectant and recent Moms. She wants to conduct her program similar to the BootCamp at the Beach. The commission assigned Bill Lawyer to work with her to finalize an agreement for her to operate.

10. Nowotnik updated the Commission on a dumpster solution. We would purchase 8 new 4yard containers to replace the old 30yard container. The eight new containers would be purchased and Seaside Johnnies would pay for four of them for use by his staff to dispose their trash. Recycling would continue to be handled as currently handled. The old 30yard container would be sold for scrap. Commissioner Sack reminded everyone that this issue needed to be formalized for any future licensing agreements. Commissioner Rosenberg suggested cleaning and improving the area once the old container has been dealt with.

11. Old Business/New Business - None

On a motion by Commissioner Sack, seconded by Commissioner Brett, the Commission voted 6-0 to adjourn the meeting.



**RYE TOWN PARK COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of July 2, 2014 Special Meeting**

1. Present:

Joseph Carvin, Supervisor, Town of Rye – Chair  
Laura Brett, Commissioner  
Neil Pagano, Commissioner & Mayor – Village of Port Chester  
Benedict Salanitro, Commissioner

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. On a motion by Commissioner Pagano, seconded by Commissioner Brett, the Commission voted 4-0 to purchase a new John Deere, Model 5045E tractor with a H240 front loader bucket for the purchase price of \$27,248.24. Resolution is attached.

4. Old Business/New Business - None

On a motion by Commissioner Pagano, seconded by Commissioner Brett, the Commission voted 4-0 to adjourn the meeting.

Rye Town Park Commission - Special Meeting – 7/2/2014

Present: Carvin, Brett, Salanitro, Pagano

#### PURCHASE OF NEW TRACTOR

Secretary Nowotnik presented the information concerning the proposed tractor purchase. He reviewed the various steps taken to mitigate the expense.

1. Survey of surrounding muni's to see if anyone had a spare tractor to lend for the season. (no one has any spares)
2. Discussions with Playland to pay their staff to clean our beach (They felt that this could not work for them beyond the favor they are doing us currently.)
3. Purchase of used equipment (Pricing of used equipment was about 80% of the proposed new pricing, adding in transport costs increased this further, and there were no warranties in place)
4. Rental of tractor for short term to defer action. (Costs for short term rental were nearly 40% of the proposed new purchase)

None of the above avenues have proved fruitful.

The proposed new tractor purchase includes a front end loader that would provide much functionality and service to support various maintenance tasks required at the Park.

## Rye Town Park Committee – 7-15-2014

Present, Carvin, Sack, Salanitro, Rosenberg, Brett

Minutes of 6/16 meeting approved by voice vote

Commissioner Sack asked for correction to minutes – re: insert his concerns about garbage truck noise on Forest Avenue and in the park.

Comments from the public-

**Goldie Solomon** – Oakland Beach is the best, most beautiful beach she has ever been to. She loves the concerts. We are blessed with the beach. Only problem is loose dogs. People seem to ignore the “no dogs” signs. There are too many kids in the park for loose dogs. Please fix.

**Bill Lawyer** indicated that the 7/15 concert would be postponed to one of two rain dates, 8/5 or 8/19. The name of the group is the Urban Coyotes.

**Anne Moller** from the Friends of Rye Town Park notified the commissioners that the Movie night; showing the Goonies, would be postponed to their rain date of 8/21 at 7:00Pm. She also thanked Fred Gioffre and Bill Lawyer for all of the help and support they provide for FoRTP.

**Fred Gioffre** reviewed the management report (attached)

Nowotnik reviewed the 4<sup>th</sup> of July activity. As of the holiday weekend the park revenue is about \$15,000 behind same time last year. Nowotnik also apprised the Commissioners that the calendar with the Labor Day being on September 2, would be minimizing September revenues.

Rye City Leash Law sub-committee report was presented by Commissioner Brett. She highlighted Rye Town’s concern about added liabilities that might be posed by allowing unleashed dogs in the park. Brett indicated that she has asked for a meeting with the Rye City Attorney and the Town of Rye Attorney to help resolve any possible liability issues resulting from the proposed new law. Fencing in a designated area in the park was rejected by the sub-committee as too confining. A registration policy, along with a fee, would help fund any added security and management of the hours of use policy was suggested by the committee. Registration would also help prevent the park from being overrun by non-resident dogs.

There would be more discussion to further refine the committee’s suggestions.

Seaside Johnnies menu prices were presented to the Commissioners. Carvin indicated he had no desire to over control the pricing. Commissioners did comment the pricing was a bit high. Fred Gioffre shared that Seaside did have reduced price specials between 4 & 7 PM that some of the employees make use of. No menu price changes were suggested.

Seaside had also requested a one year lease extension, which the Commission had rejected earlier in the year when the Park Operations RFP was still being considered. His current lease expires 12/31/2016. Commissioner Carvin felt there was no need to consider an extension if the contract would be going out to bid so soon. Commissioner Brett concurred that rebidding the contract would be the best path for

the Park. Attorney Noto reminded the Commissioners there were several areas of the agreement that the commission was dissatisfied with and rebidding/renegotiating would allow for those adjustments. Commissioner Sack also agreed.

The Macri family has requested a special 2 week permit for Joseph Macri visit to the park. He was a Park Director for about 25 years, now 81 years old, and coming east for a visit. The Commission approved the 2 week permit with the family paying only applicable parking. Commissioner Sack, concerned about any precedents being set, suggested these types of permits be highly restricted.

Fred Gioffre summarized the changes to recycling and waste oil handling as a result of the new dumpsters. He suggested the current \$3000.00 fee for Seaside Johnnies trash removal was quite low and should be reviewed.

Nowotnik showed the Commissioners material samples for the bench replacement program. The slats would be engineered plasticized wood product and the railings and frames would be steel.

On a motion by Salanitro, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brett, the Commission decided to eliminate the August meeting and the next meeting would be held September 16<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Brett thanked the staff for facilitating the New York Rising Community Forum. This group provides block grants to communities for flood mitigation and wanted to have a public participation meeting to get local input on flood mitigation issues.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45PM

## Rye Town Park Meeting – 9-16-2014

Present: Joseph Carvin, Joseph Sack, Benedict Salanitro, Laura Brett, Paul Rosenberg, Neil Pagano

On a motion by Joseph Sack, and seconded by Laura Brett, the Commission immediately voted to go into Executive Session on a personnel matter to discuss an issue regarding a specific employee.

The meeting resumed with the presentation of Distinguished Service Awards to three Rye Town Park employees for rescuing a woman from a potential drowning. 2 Security Guards, Steven Contreras and Scott Sprague along with Michael Stiglianese, a maintenance worker, found the woman in deep water, late at night, clinging to the swim line. They were able to bring her in to shore and turned her over to Rye City EMS. Their actions exhibited exceptional bravery and proper training.

On a motion by Benny Salanitro, seconded by Joseph Sack, the minutes of July 15, 2014 were approved.

Fred Gioffre presented the RTP Management Report. Highlights were a review of the beach closing process. Beginning October 1, the parking and beach gates will be left open, and we will have 2 security shifts to cover the days and evenings through October 31<sup>st</sup>. After that the Park reverts to a “passive park” with no dedicated staff. Rye City police will patrol and Zicca Landscaping will perform periodic trash pickup. Greenway services will continue to mow the grass, perform fall leaf cleanup and snow plowing.

Commissioner Brett reported the progress of the Dog Committee. She passed on the following recommendation of the committee:

- Dogs to be allowed off leash from 6:00AM to 9:00AM each day with certain restrictions in place.
- This would be a year round policy with enforcement by RTP security and Rye City Police
- Dogs must be registered with the Parks Commission, for a reasonable fee.
- The fees would offset any added security required for enforcement and or maintenance.
- Registration would include the acceptance of a dog owners’ Code of Conduct.
- The number of dogs any particular person could have in the park at any one time would be limited to two as control of more than two dogs off leash would be difficult.
- Dogs would continue to be restricted to designated areas within the park. This area is west of the Beach Walk
- Rye City Police to perform spot checks during both off leash and on leash hours to confirm proper registration.
- Clear signage would be required to notify the public of off leash hours.

She did point out that the FORTP is opposed to a dogs off leash law. They are in favor of a fenced in area; aka dog run as a safer alternative.

Commissioner Rosenberg suggested an earlier deadline, 8:30AM or 8:45AM as the time leashes would be required as this would provide for better separation of dogs and people using the park.

Commissioner Pagano voiced his opposition to dogs off leash in the park at any time.

Commissioner Brett agreed that dogs should not be allowed off leash on the Beach.  
Commissioner Carvin asked to consider a trial period for the recommendations.  
Commissioner Sack agreed to put off a formal vote of the Rye City Council at least until 10/22.  
It was agreed to revisit the recommendations at the next Rye Town Park meeting.

Commissioner Carvin reminded the Commission to review the 2013 Audited Financial Report for Rye Town Park and pass along any questions to Secretary Nowotnik.

Secretary Nowotnik then reviewed the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the tree removal program, put off from earlier in the year. The six trees not removed last spring would cost \$5050.00. Commissioner Salanitro asked how this year's financial report compared to last year, same time. Nowotnik reluctantly indicated that this year would result in a 2014 projected operating loss of approx. \$50,000. The Commission wanted more clarity on the 2014 actual finances and agreed to postpone the decision until next meeting.

"Tie the Town Pink" was presented by Lisa Domenici Perry from Sole Ryeders. They raise money to support various local Cancer support services. They want to wrap the trees in the park with Pink ribbons and bows for the month of October. They agreed to remove all materials at the end of the Month. On a motion by Rosenberg, seconded by Brett, the Commissioners approved the program, 5-0.

Resurrection School asked to hold a Cross Country Track Meet at the Park. Bill Lawyer indicated a \$450.00 fee had been agreed on. Proper insurance would be provided by the school.

Bill also reviewed the needs for NAMI and Pancreatic Cancer groups for the next year. Carvin asked for recommendations to be presented for next meeting. He also asked the groups to present their requests directly to the Commission. He asked for more comprehensive information on all groups using the park and what the charges are.

Carvin brought up the concept of installing solar panel systems in the parking lot areas as a method to control utility costs. Nowotnik was assigned the project to research feasibility.

On a motion by Salanitro, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brett the meeting was adjourned.