

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

October 8, 2008

The Boothe Memorial Park Commission of the Town of Stratford conducted a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, October 8, 2008, at 7:30 p.m. in the Coliseum Building on the grounds of Boothe Memorial Park, Main Street, Stratford CT, pursuant to notice duly given and posted.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m.

Presiding: Chairman Stephanie Philips

Commissioners in Attendance: J. Brazzell R. Brown, B. Burton, B. Daponte, A. Scala, S. Voccola, Councilman T. Moore

Commissioners & Others Absent: A. Wanamaker (excused due to illness) A. Thorpe (Amateur Radio Group)

Others in Attendance: P. Handy (Parks Dept.), P. DeVitto (BMRS), M. Holden (BMAS), Frank Kecko and Mary Beth Eckert (Rose Garden volunteers), B. Galli (Pumpkin Festival volunteer)

1. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the 9/17/08 Meeting were approved on a motion by R. Brown and seconded by A. Scala.
2. **Financial Report:** (a) Chairman Philips distributed and reviewed Profit & Loss (7/08) and Balance Sheet (10/8); Commission secretarial fees are now being paid from the Town Council budget and a reimbursement has been received for prior fees paid out of the Commission's budget.
3. **Parks Department Report:** P. Handy reported that he met with Chairman Philips to discuss status of contractor's bids and timeline for purchase order and work to start (scheduled during this fall); Pumpkin Festival set up plans confirmed; keys to bathrooms have been distributed to BMRS & BMAS; installation of windows in Amateur Radio Group building has been scheduled.
4. **Old Business:**
 - (i) Kitchen Renovations (Coliseum) – new stove will not be installed in time for the Pumpkin Festival (bids to be reviewed and specifications to be submitted to Purchasing Dept.).
 - (ii) Pumpkin Festival '08 – final details and plans reviewed and discussed (publicity, volunteers, food, safety patrols, games/entertainment, pumpkin carvers. Discussion regarding having a professional wood carving demonstration (issues noted in previously distributed emails), followed by **Motion by R. Brown to move forward with wood carving demonstration (some type of animal) during the Pumpkin Festival at a cost of \$500.00, with the finished carving possibly being sold by silent auction on site (minimum bid \$400.00) and being removed by winning bidder, and if not sold then**

donated to Parks & Recreation Dept. to be placed on another town property; after further discussion motion was seconded by A. Scala and passed by a vote of 6 in favor and 1 opposed.

(iii) Website – S. Voccola reported that the website is up and functioning; discussion followed re further options and features to be considered. Chairman Philips thanked Sarah for all her work and assistance with this project. Mayor Miron has some issues with the design and content of the website which will be addressed by Sarah and the web designer. Chairman Philips requested that P. DeVitto (BMRS) and M. Holden (BMAS) submit detailed data for inclusion on the website.

5. **Volunteer Reports:** (a) BMAS – M. Holden reported that visitor attendance at the Observatory has been good with events being held on weekends; they have recently installed shelving for books and other items; issue with keys has been resolved; there will be tours and solar observing during Pumpkin Festival. (b) BMRS – P. DeVitto reported that all is going well with the Train Museum; they will be open during Pumpkin Festival and will have some volunteers to act as greeters.
6. **Commissioners' Reports:** none at this time.
7. **New Business:** (a) Rose Garden Festival '09 – tabled to next meeting.
8. **Adjournment:** There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. on a motion by R. Brown and seconded by Councilman Moore.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Gallo
Recording Secretary