

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

November 19, 2008

The Boothe Memorial Park Commission of the Town of Stratford conducted a Special Meeting on Wednesday, November 19, 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 7:48 p.m.

Presiding: Chairman Stephanie Philips

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

Commissioners & Others Absent: A. Scala, P. Handy (Parks Dept.), A. Thorpe (Amateur Radio Group)

Others in Attendance: P. DeVitto (BMRS), M. Holden (BMAS), Mary Beth Eckert (Rose Garden volunteers)

1. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the 10/8/08 Meeting were approved on a motion by R. Brown and seconded by J. Brazzell.
2. **Financial Report:** (a) Chairman Philips reported that formal report bill will be presented at next meeting; information re income and expenses are still being received from the town. Preliminary Pumpkin Festival profit is \$1,000 (this year's expenses were higher, receipts lower, less sponsorships, expense for demo woodcarver).
3. **Parks Department Report:** P. Handy absent; Chairman Philips reported that contractors are working and making progress on repairs/painting, etc. There has been a change in the process for reserving use of the Boothe Park facilities - all requests will go through the Recreation Dept. since they are responsible for all town-owned recreation facilities.
4. **Old Business:**
 - (i) Kitchen Renovations (Coliseum) – bids/specs are in the works; Fire Dept. will be checking the ventilation/fire suppression systems per regulations.
 - (ii) Pumpkin Festival '08 – discussed briefly in Financial Report above; further report at next meeting.
 - (iii) Website – S. Voccola reported that the website is doing well & will be updated with information on next year's Pumpkin Festival.
 - (iv) Rose Garden Festival 2009 – J. Brazzell reported that it will not be feasible for them to plan the Rose Garden Festival for next year due to the recent damage to many of the rose bushes; new bushes will be planted.

5. **Volunteer Reports:** (a) BMAS – M. Holden reported that there is a concern with the swing gate that blocks the access road to the Observatory; he will need a key for same if it is going to remain in place and locked. A 17-year old member of BMAS has been recognized by the Discovery Museum for his public outreach with reference to the Observatory. (b) BMRS – P. DeVitto reported that turn out at the Train Museum was very successful during the Pumpkin Festival; they will have a Thanksgiving Open House on 11/22 from 1-4pm; there will be a children's birthday party on 12/7 and Tiger Scouts visiting on 12/10; additional new items are on display (invoice for \$199.95 submitted for payment). **Motion by R. Brown to authorize allocation of \$199.95 for new items at the Train Museum, seconded by J. Brazzell and passed unanimously.**
6. **Commissioners' Reports:** none at this time.
7. **New Business:** (a) Chairman Philips addressed issue of continued advertising in the Stratford Community Calendar for 2009 at a cost of \$320.00; discussion followed. **Motion by R. Brown to authorize the full-page advertising in the 2009 Stratford Community Calendar at a cost of \$320.00, seconded by Councilperson Wanamaker and passed unanimously.** (b) Concerts at Boothe Park – discussion followed re possible scheduling of concerts for 2009 and need to book early due to band schedules. Subcommittee of R. Brown, B. DaPonte and S. Voccola will work with Recreation Dept. and Arts Commission on choices, scheduling, etc. and report at next meeting. (c) Chairman Philips reported that Building Needs has requested a prioritized list of building at the Park that still need work; existing lists (Master Plan '01-'06, Silver Petrucelli assessment report and summary by B. Burton) will be reviewed and report submitted as soon as possible. (d) Chairman Philips reported that the woodcarving from the Pumpkin Festival is currently being stored at the Park and needs to be offered for bid or donated to another town facility; follow-up report at next meeting.
8. **Adjournment:** There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. on a motion by R. Brown and seconded by S. Voccola.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Gallo
Recording Secretary