

THE MORRIS COUNTY PARK COMMISSION

300 Mendham Road

Morristown, New Jersey

President Cass-Schmidt called to order the 854th meeting of the Morris County Park Commission at 9:30 a.m. on October 10, 2017, at the Cultural Center, 300 Mendham Road, Morristown, New Jersey.

Executive Director Helmer then read the following notice: PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., adequate notice of this meeting held at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, the 10th day of October, 2017 has been provided by publication in the *Daily Record* and *The Star-Ledger*, by posting of said notice in the Administration Building of the Morris County Park Commission, on the Morris County Park Commission website, and at the County Courthouse, and by filing a copy of the same with the Morris County Clerk.

ROLL CALL

The following were present:

President Cass-Schmidt
Commissioner Julie Baron
Commissioner William Cogger
Commissioner Stuart Lasser
Commissioner Richard Seabury, III
Commissioner Lou Valori

Executive Director David D. Helmer
Deputy Executive Director Richard Vitale
Counsel John Suminski

Also in attendance were the following staff members:

Director of Visitor Services and Park Maintenance Biase, Director of Paark Planning Chaplick, Director of Recreation Fauci, Assistant Deputy Director Lanza, Assistant Deputy Director Zafonte, Manager of Park Projects Felter, Manager of Building and Construction Gara, Manager of Engineering Services Hutzelmann, GIS Coordinator Karmon,

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

President Cass-Schmidt led those present in the salute to the flag.

PARK TOUR

At this point in the meeting the Commissioners and staff left on a tour of the following parks:

1. Columbia Trail-Schooley’s Mountain Road Parking Lots

The Columbia Trail is 100.4-acre facility with 7.2 miles of trail located in Washington Township. Hunterdon County Park System is responsible for an additional 6.5 miles of trail. There are an estimated 33,480 annual users of the trail, which also connects to Schooley’s Mountain County Park(791.51-acres) via a spur of Patriots’ Path at the Palmer Parking Lot located on Fairview Avenue.

The Trail was donated by the Columbia Gas Company in 1998 and still has to active gas lines either below or contiguous to the trail (Columbia Gas Line & Elizabethtown Gas Line). The trail was once the former High Bridge Branch of the Central Railroad of NJ. T&M Associates prepared a Development Design Manual for the trail in 2000. The trail has 11 bridge crossings which have recently all been improved over the last 5-6 years by Buildings & Construction Staff.

Ash tree inventorying is still be completed but 144 Ash Trees have been tagged at this time.

2. Mount Paul Memorial County Park (Hutzelmann, Biase, Chaplick)

- a. Parking Lot**
- b. Archery Area**
- c. Development of a trail system**

- **4,380 park patrons**
- **285.72-acres**

- Chester & Mendham Townships
- First parcel acquired in 1965
- Proposed to be a General Purpose Park
- American Chestnut Foundation(16 seedlings/50 seeds)
- Patriots' Path proposed
- Ash Trees 151/1

3. Central Park of Morris County (Felter, Gara, Biase, Tode, Hutzelmann)

- a. Drive thru park**
- b. Butler Building** (Kristin, Jim, Mark)
- c. X-country Trail** (Russ)
- d. Pavilion** (Mark)
- e. New Driveway location** (Jim)

- **439,137 park patrons**
- **299.27 + 127-acres**

- Ash trees 274/2

4. Mennen Sports Arena (Fauci, Hutzelmann/Chang)

- a. Rink #3 Seating**
- b. Driveway**

- **969,169 parks patrons**
- **15.43-acres**

- Donated 1972
- Rink 1 – 1974

- Rink 2- 1986
- Rink 3-2001
- Ash Trees 22/

5. The Frelinghuysen Arboretum (Gara, Zafonte)

- a. Mansion Improvements**
- b. Pavers/Railings Project**

- **314,348 park patrons**
- **127.48-acres**
- Bequeathed 1969
- National Register of Historic Places 1977
- Ash Trees 97/3

6. Lewis Morris County Park (Biase, Gara, Tode)

- a. Off-leash Area**
- b. Sunrise Lake Boathouse**

- **525,110 park patrons**
- **2,195.8-acres**
- First opened in 1958/First land acquisition 1956
- Ash Trees 1,015/22

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no matters discussed in Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Cass-Schmidt adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m. on the motion of Commissioner Valori and was seconded by Commissioner Lasser and unanimously approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

[ORIGINAL SIGNATURE ON FILE]

David D. Helmer

Executive Director

[ORIGINAL SIGNATURE ON FILE]

Katherine Petro

Office Manager