

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE RTM FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE
MONDAY, October 21, 2019**

**PLACE:
DARIEN TOWN HALL
Mather Center Extension, 7:00 P.M.**

1. Call to Order: Jack Davis, Chair, at 7:04 p.m. This was a joint meeting with the RTM Park & Rec Committee.

Committee Members Attendance:

	Martha Banks	Taylor Carter	Jack Davis	Mike Heitz	James Howe	Dave Martin	Iris Mix	Barry Baldwin
Present	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Absent				X				

	Peter Orphanos	Brad Pattelli	Tammy Sload	Bill Smith	Stacey Tie	Bert Von Stuelpnagel	Lisa Yarnell
Present	X	X		X	X		X
Absent			X			X	

12 Present and 3 Absent. Needed for Quorum: 8. Quorum attained.

2. Other Attendees (Audience) Present Included:

RTM Park & Rec Committee Chair, Adele Conniff, Patti Bumgardner; Diane Conologue; Susanne Handler; Cheryl Russell; Sue-Ellen Mitchell; Sandy Savage; Mark Adiletta; Ken Fiveson; Jennifer Moller; Susan Lauritzen; Emily McDermott; Bill Van Loan.

Other Guests: Pam Gery, Darien P&R Department, Lori Bora, P&R Commission Chair; Susan Daly, P&R Commission member; Paul Henderickson, BOF member

3. Chairperson's Report: Jack Davis briefly reviewed the agenda and provided some background relating to the proposed gift from the DAF and Darien Foundation.

4. Discussion of walking trail gift:

The meeting was originally scheduled to further discuss the acceptance of the Darien Athletic Foundation and the Darien Foundation's gift of \$1,500,000 for the Weed Beach Meadow and Trail Improvements. The meeting began with the F&B chairman announcing that the resolution was being pulled from a vote as DAF and DF had not buttoned up the

finance numbers. It was mentioned that the additional costs to maintain the upgraded Weed Beach Meadow and Trails would be minimal as new equipment has been added to increase efficiency in order to free up man hours and costs. Additional maintenance cost should be less than \$5,000 a year. As members from the Parks and Recreation Commission were in attendance it provided an opportunity for many questions the P&R Committee members had to be answered. It was mentioned that the EPC had cleared the project for Short Lane and that DAF and DF wanted their own contractors to perform the work. Discussion continued regarding liability for unsatisfactory work and it was mentioned that a performance bond most likely would be written into the contract to safeguard potential problems. Discussion then turned to the installation of the boardwalk. Many members were concerned that a boardwalk would reduce the size of the beach. It was mentioned that the beach will actually become more accessible to all residents of Darien with the installation of the boardwalk and that the boardwalk was in the plans from the original Weed Beach improvement from many years ago. The F&B chair mentioned that this could be voted on before the State of the Town RTM meeting or perhaps in January. A committee member was concerned as this could delay the project that many were in hopes would be completed in time for the Town of Darien's celebration in June. It was noted that it was important to iron out all of the concerns and not be rushed to a hasty decision.

5. MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Moved Ms. Tie
2nd Mr. Howe

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jack Davis, Chair
Date: 02.11.2020