Ad Hoc Committee for the Robert Tedford Memorial  
Special Meeting Minutes  
September 25, 2019  
Town Hall Meeting Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sherry Kraus, Dustin Huguenin, Lisa Houlihan, Joanne Tedford, Kate Tedford, Tom Boscarino (arrived 6:11 pm)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Felicia LaPlante, Tim Webb

OTHERS PRESENT: Mitchell Pawlowski, Julia Connor

I. Call to Order  
Vice Chairman Kraus called the meeting to order 6:10 at p.m.

II. Citizens’ Forum [non-agenda items]: No citizens came forward.

III. Approval of Minutes – September 12, 2019  
MOVED (J. TEDFORD), SECONDED (HUGUENIN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2019 SPECIAL MEETING.

IV. Unfinished Business

A. Memorial Markers  
Discussion on this item was put off to a later meeting, as it won’t be addressed by the Board of Education Operations Subcommittee until November or December at the earliest. Chairman Boscarino provided the official dates of service of Robert Tedford to the Town of Ellington; Mr. Tedford was appointed the part-time permanent Recreation Director in September of 1975, upon the resignation of Richard Tingley.

B. Update on Robert Tedford Memorial Park  
The tentative plan is to have the new sign installed by the day of the dedication ceremony, to be discussed during the tribute. Kate Tedford provided the Committee members with draft signage provided by Carl White of Ellington Printery.

MOVED (HOULIHAN), SECONDED (BOSCARINO) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE DESIGN #2, AS SHOWN ON THE DRAFT SIGNAGE REPORT [ATTACHED].

C. October 26, 2019 Dedication Ceremony  
Vice Chairman Kraus spoke with Brenda Sisco, who is involved with the creation of the State Gubernatorial Proclamation to acknowledge the renaming of Brookside Park to Robert Tedford Memorial Park; this proclamation will also recognize Mr. Tedford’s service to the Town of Ellington. Vice Chairman Kraus shared the
proposed wording of the proclamation with the Committee members. The presentation of this proclamation will take place during the Dedication Ceremony.

Dustin Huguenin shared the tentative timeline for the day. The opening dedication ceremony will take place at 8:45 am, to run approximately half an hour. Races will begin at 9:30; the fall festival activities and the mile fun run will take place after the racers begin the course. A brief awards ceremony will take place around 11:15 am, depending on when the finishers come through.

There was discussion regarding who will speak throughout the event, as well as the details of how certain aspects of the day, such as the flag ceremony, will be handled. Kristian Tedford will act as emcee for the event, with Cynthia Costanzo of the Parks and Recreation Commission to explain the significance of the flag that was flown over the Nation’s Capital in Bob’s honor.

Vice Chairman Kraus is in touch with the various athletic teams to determine what equipment, setup and space is needed for the fall festival. Other activities, such as face painting and paint-your-own-pumpkin, are also being planned. A donation table may be set up for individuals to contribute to future events and projects.

The awards ceremony this year will include different prizes for a variety of non-result based categories.

The Committee members and the speakers will be introduced at the beginning of the post-race portion of the tribute ceremony. Chairman Boscarino plans to speak to the history of the Recreation Director position, as well as Bob’s introduction to the position and the related transitions and transformations over the years. Other speech topics and speaker options were also discussed. Tressa Giordano was approached to offer her perspective on the various aspects of mentorship offered by Bob and the Department as a whole. Vice Chairman Kraus was brought up as a suggested speaker, as well as Jim Desrocher, who has been involved in a great variety of programs in his time with the Recreation Department. Chairman Boscarino recognized Tom Curtiss as someone who could offer a unique perspective, having been involved with the department since around the time Bob began as Recreation Director. Joanne Tedford also mentioned Gina Gunn, daughter of a long-time former Recreation Commission member Dick Gunn. A tentative order of speakers was proposed as follows: Tom Boscarino, Tom Curtiss, Gina Gunn, Tressa Giordano, Jim Desrocher, Sherry Kraus. The afternoon will be wrapped up with the playing of Taps, a moment of reflection, and the presentation of the flag to the family.

V. New Business

No new business was discussed.

VI. Review Action Items

The next meeting is scheduled for October 10, 2019 at 6:00 pm.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED (BOSCARINO), SECONDED (KRAUS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:11 PM.

Submitted by

[Signature]

Julia Connor