

SACHEM FUND BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

Tuesday, June 6, 2017

Norwich City Hall, Room 319

4:02 p.m. - 4:16 p.m.

Minutes

Attendees: Mayor Debercy Hinchey and Comptroller Josh Pothier Community Development Deanna Rhodes; Mohegan Tribal Council Member Mark Brown; Council Appointee Lottie Scott, William Quidgeon Jr. Council Appointee and Recording Secretary Marixsa Jimenez

Absent: Alderwoman Joanne Philbrick

Citizens Attending: Regan Miner, Bill Champagne from Norwich Historical Society

Members of the Media: Claire Bessette, The Day

1. Deanna Rhodes called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.
2. Mayor Hinchey made a motion to approve the minutes for the May 15, 2017 and the June 1, 2017 meetings and seconded by Josh Pothier. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Discuss and decide on Sachem Fund recipients for recommendation to council:
 - a. Mark Brown stated that Ellis Ruley and Norwich Historical Society stated the southeastern, CT is definitely tourism related and that both of these committees are not only tourism but they link into to what Norwich is rich in which is the history of the City. Mark stated he would approve these two committees based on the fact that they fit the criteria for the Sachem Fund. He also stated that these two projects will have a lot of connectivity and cooperation in working together such as the Freedom Trail project and this is something we did not have in the past. Mark stated the one thing he would like to see that has not happened is not enough vendors, restaurants, sponsorships and the community coming together to support these different groups so that a spin off that comes out of this. He mentioned to the committees that if there are sponsorships within the community they should reach out because it would connect them with restaurants and businesses. Mark Brown stated he supports funding both the Ellis Ruley Project and The Norwich Historical Society.
 - b. Lottie Scott stated she agrees with Mark Brown's recommendation.

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- c. Mark Brown stated that everyone feels the Safe Futures is an important issue. There were some things brought up that do not fit certain criteria of the intent of what the Sachem Fund is used for. The issue is if an exception is made, then the Sachem Fund Board will have eliminated people in the initial onset that maybe did not apply because they may have thought they did not meet the criteria. He stated it's a worthy cause but there has to be a different direction for funding for Safe Futures.
- d. Deanna Rhode stated that both Ellis Ruley Project and The Norwich Historical Society projects are excellent and seem to have a reasonable plan for sustainability and scored high on the rating sheet. Safe Futures did not score high on her rating sheet due to not meeting all criteria.
- e. William Quidgeon stated he approves both the Ellis Ruley Project and The Norwich Historical Society. He stated he did not see Safe Futures fit the Sachem Fund criteria.
- f. Mayor Hinchey stated that she agrees with funding the Ellis Ruley Project and The Norwich Historical Society. She agreed with Mark on the two projects connecting with restaurants and businesses. Mayor Hinchey stated that while Safe Futures is a vital program, she also feels does not fits the criteria for the Sachem Fund.
- g. Josh Pothier agrees with funding the Ellis Ruley Project and The Norwich Historical Society.
- h. Mark Brown motioned to award to the Ellis Ruley Project and The Norwich Historical Society for the amounts requested. The motion was seconded by Josh Pothier. The vote passed unanimously with Lottie Scott abstaining from the vote.
- i. A resolution will be prepared and presented to the Norwich City Council on the June 19, 2017 City Council meeting.

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4. Deanna Rhodes asked what the process was after the funds have been awarded. William Quidgeon stated there were follow-ups via emails for project updates. Updates were done quarterly in the past. Deanna suggested perhaps site walks could be done for these two projects.
5. Mayor Hinchey motioned, and seconded by Lottie Scott to adjourn the meeting at 4:16 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by:

Marixsa Jimenez, Recording Secretary