

**TOWN OF HAMDEN**  
**TOWN CENTER PARK COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING**  
**SEPTEMBER 16, 2013**  
**10:00 AM**  
**MAIN FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**HAMDEN GOVERNMENT CENTER**  
**2750 DIXWELL AVENUE**  
**HAMDEN**

**COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Matt Fitch, Chairman  
Matt Corcoran

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Julie Smith, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Mimsi Coleman, Director of Arts, Recreation and Culture  
Liz Frias, Parks Special Events Coordinator  
Peggy Craft, Commissioner Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Fitch called the meeting to order at 10:05 PM.

**ATTENDANCE**

Attendance was taken as noted above.

**APPROVAL OF AUGUST 19, 2013 MINUTES**

**Mr. Fitch motioned to accept the Minute of the August 19, 2013 Meeting as presented. Mr. Corcoran seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Mr. Fitch said things have gone great so far this season, and we now need to focus on the last five Farmers Market dates and the Grand Finale. He will discuss what is next with Ms. Coleman. He noted that what we have done will have a ripple effect on future events.

Mr. Fitch said the Market would be open from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM on September 27th. There will be free Fred Water after 1:00 PM. Ms. Smith said she would not be at the Market on that day.

Next, Mr. Fitch discussed an 18 Food Truck Extravaganza that will be held in Town Center Park on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Fitch said Ms. Frias has been working very hard putting this together.

Ms. Frias said she has been creating flyers listing the food trucks that will be at the event. There are 11 trucks confirmed. Ms. Frias has been teasing about this event on facebook and intends to do the "big reveal" on Sunday. 8,500 people have viewed the facebook post, and there have been 120 comments and over 100 "likes". 150 people have also shared the post. The comments have been very positive. Ms. Frias will continue to update the facebook page.

It has been estimated that there will be 500 attendees at the Truck Extravaganza but Mr. Fitch feels that figure is low.

Ms. Coleman and Ms. Smith said a resolution has been sent to the Legislative Council regarding the fees for the fall schedule and should be signed during the next council meeting. They also said that they would speak to the Police Chief to make sure he is positive about this event. Ms. Coleman added that the Chief is adamant about having the vendors fingerprinted in advance. There was a short discussion regarding this subject.

There was further discussion regarding the Food Truck event. Ms. Frias said she feels there is a need for a Mexican food truck. She will speak to Enchiladas regarding this. She also said that she has spoken with Glenwood and they sounded interested. She has encouraged Firedog to provide "kid food" such as chicken nuggets and mac and cheese. Ms. Smith suggested adding another ethnic food truck such as Thai or Jamacian. There were several suggestions for vendors including Jerk Fish, Gourmet Lady, Food Extrovert and Mamouns. There will also be a DJ at the event. Mr. Fitch said there is no need to cap the number of trucks that will be participating in this event.

There was a discussion regarding lights, tables and the need for volunteers to clean up during the event, bus tables, etc. Ms. Smith and Ms. Coleman volunteered to bus tables. Ms. Smith said there are five table in the shed as well as four picnic tables. There are also 20 tables that can be loaned out from Miller Memorial Library. Paul Coleman of Public Works will be contacted regarding this. It was noted that there would be a need for help from Public Works to move the tables. Mr. Fitch said there would probably be a need for seating for at least 100 people. He said 20 plus tables along with the picnic tables should be sufficient. There was a discussion regarding the need for the hospitality tent to house additional tables, and the need for heat lamps. Ms. Coleman said she would have the heat lamps there. Ms. Coleman asked if we want to move the tables away from the playground. There was a discussion regarding this question. There was also a short discussion regarding twinkling lights.

Next, Mr. Fitch asked what would be the best way "get the word out". Ms. Coleman said flyers would be sent home with students, and the facebook page would continue to be updated. QU and SCSU have been contacted. They can't advertise non-school events, but Patrick and Liz will "Dorm Storm", etc. to get the word out.

Mr. Fitch noted that Ms. Frias is doing a great job.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Ari Protopsaltis of Town House Restaurant would like to donate a bench to Town Center Park to be placed by the Playground.

**Mr. Corcoran motioned to accept the donation of a bench to Town Center Park to be placed by the Playground from Ari Protopsaltis of Town House Restaurant. Mr. Fitch seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

### **FUTURE MEETING DATE CHANGES**

There was a short discussion regarding changing the time of the meetings to 10:00 AM. All present agreed to this change in time. **Mr. Corcoran motioned to change the meeting time to 10:00 AM. Mr. Fitch seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

### **INFRASTRUCTURE**

Discussion regarding Infrastructure will be tabled to the next meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There was not further business to come before the Commission. **Chairman Fitch motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Corcoran seconded the motion that passed unanimously.** Chairman Fitch adjourned the meeting at 11:00 AM.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Peggy Craft, Commission Clerk