

(21)

~AD HOC REPORT~
Disc Golf Course in City Park
Thursday, May 19, 2016

Chairman John Priola called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 19, 2016, in the Caucus Room, 3rd Floor, Danbury City Hall, 155 Deer Hill Avenue. Present were Committee Members Christopher Arconti and Paul Rotello. Also present were Ex-Officio Member and Petitioner Duane Perkins; Les Pinter, Deputy Corporation Counsel; Tim Nolan, Public Services Division of Public Works; Nicholas Kaplanis, Director of Parks and Recreation; Matt Serfass, Danbury Disc Golf Group President; and Jack Riley, Westchester Disc Golf Enthusiasts (WeDGE) Chair.

Mr. Priola stated the meeting is a continuation of a meeting in September to have Corporation Counsel research disc golf use at the park and that the petitioner return with more concrete plans.

Mr. Pinter reviewed research into the grant monies received related to passive uses at the park. He received a response back indicating that it was felt there would be no a violation of the agreement or passive use of the park if disc golf were allowed.

Mr. Serfass and Mr. Riley reviewed the plans and responded to questions regarding tree and brush density, basket placement, capping, securing, and moving. Mr. Perkins commented on the plan, access, and the reservoir

Mr. Kaplanis commented on installation and responsibility for the equipment, events including certificates of insurance and parking.

Mr. Rotello commented regarding the use of the property and reasons for purchasing the land. He noted holes 3, 4, 8, and 9 and the ultimate need to protect the water. There were comments on the conservation easement.

Mr. Riley noted that disc golf has been found to be a widely acceptable use at reservoir areas and responded to questions regarding storage. He highlighted the accessibility, ease of play, and that it will be free of charge.

Mr. Nolan clarified for the record, Public Work's involvement in the construction and maintenance is only as follows: 1) determine the property boundary, and 2) assist in accordance with Mr. Iadarola's tree work.

Mr. Pinter discussed logistical issues, whether an agreement would be needed, holding a Public Hearing, future requests, and other issues to be aware of. Mr. Arconti commented on responsibility for the course. Mr. Kaplanis gave examples of permits for various uses in other areas. Several members commented that simply donating the course equipment, etc., to the City would simplify things. Mr. Pinter commented that an agreement would be beneficial.

A motion was made by Councilman Rotello, and seconded by Councilman Arconti, to accept the donation which includes the construction of the disc golf course, all its expenses, continuing maintenance, and removal if so desired by either party and forwarding to a Public Hearing in order to whether to allow the use of parkland property at Farrington for the new use of disc golf, ultimately regulated by the City and whatever licenses or permits the City decides are most appropriate. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion by Councilman Rotello, and seconded by Councilman Arconti, that the Ad Hoc Committee be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously at 7:43 p.m.