
Sec. 134.01. Department established; Commissioner and Board of Parks, Recreation and Conservation.

There shall be a Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation in which there shall be a Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Conservation and a Parks, Recreation and Conservation Board. The commissioner shall be the head of the department but shall not exercise supervisory authority over the board. The commissioner shall be appointed by the County Executive with the approval of the board, the selection so made to be subject to the approval of the County Board. The commissioner shall be a person with training and experience in the administration of parks, recreation and conservation programs and shall have such other qualifications as the County Executive and the board shall deem necessary.

(Added as § 50-a by the Laws of 1961, Ch. 679)

Cross reference(s)—Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, Ch. 249; use of county-owned property, Ch. 712; use of parks, parkways and residential facilities, Ch. 765; Playland Commission Act, Ch. 895; rules and regulations of Playland Commission, Ch. 897.

Sec. 134.51. Powers and duties of the board.

The board shall have the following powers and duties:

1. To recommend specifications and qualifications which shall be met by prospective nominees for the position of commissioner and to approve the appointment of the commissioner by the County Executive prior to its submission to the County Board;
2. To formulate and make recommendations upon basic policy with respect to the parks, recreation and conservation programs of the county, including tree preservation as set forth in Chapter 765 of the Laws of Westchester County;
3. To develop and recommend long-range plans for park and open space acquisition and facilities development in conjunction with the commissioner, with the assistance of the Commissioner of Planning and the Planning Board;
4. To approve a capital projects plan which shall be submitted to it by the commissioner annually and which, if so approved, shall be submitted to the Budget Director, the County Planning Department and the Capital Projects Committee in accordance with the provisions of this act;
5. To approve all matters having to do with the regulation, use, fees, and charges with respect to parks and recreation facilities, which matters shall be referred to the board by the commissioner and shall become effective only upon its approval;
6. To make recommendations upon any proposed sale of park lands, as herein defined;
7. In accordance with the provisions of this act, the commissioner shall submit to the board his estimates of receipts and proposed expenditures in connection with the preparation of the annual county budget, prior to submission of such estimates to the Budget Director, and shall set a time for a conference with the board on such estimates which may be the date for a stated monthly meeting. The commissioner shall take into consideration but shall not be bound by the recommendations of the board as to such estimates. The board may submit to the Budget Director any recommendations which the commissioner declines to accept;
8. The board shall meet once each month on a stated date to be selected by the board, and may hold such other meetings as the board may from time to time determine. Six members shall constitute a quorum. Wherever approval by the board is required, a majority of the whole board shall be required.

Any member of the board absent for any three consecutive stated or adjourned meetings shall automatically forfeit his or her appointment unless renominated by the County Executive and reconfirmed by the County Board for the unexpired term.

(Added as § 50-f by Laws of 1961, Ch. 679; amended by L.L. No. 18-1993; L.L. No. 19-1993)