



TOWN OF ELLINGTON

Parks and Recreation Commission

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ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187

THOMAS BOSCARINO
CYNTHIA COSTANZO
KEVIN HAYES
ROBERT LAREW
SHERRY KRAUS
SHAY DRAKE
CHRISTOPHER WEITZ
JENNIFER MULLIN

GORDON OLIVER
CHAIRMAN

Parks and Recreation Commission
Minutes of Special Meeting: March 13, 2019
7:00 PM at 31 Arbor Way

Members Present: Gordon Oliver, Thomas Boscarino, Cynthia Costanzo, Sherry Kraus, Shay Drake, Christopher Weitz, Jennifer Mullin (arrived 7:16PM)

Others Present: Dustin Huguenin, Director of Recreation; Mary Bartley, Assistant Director of Recreation; Jay Fisher, Ellington Softball; Karen Dwyer; Ellington Softball

AGENDA:

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Gordon Oliver, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:03PM
- II. **CORRESPONDENCE:** None
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** February 13, 2019 meeting

MOVED (BOSCARINO) SECONDED (DRAKE) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 13, 2019 MEETING.

IV. PUBLIC FORUM:

A. Ellington Youth Softball League Proposal

Karen Dwyer and Jay Fischer from the Ellington Youth Softball League presented a proposed plan to put up a temporary fence around the back softball field at Brookside Park (the field behind "Lisa's Field"). They would like to put the temporary fencing up for the season but would be flexible in removing the fence for events and activities. The proposed temporary fence for the softball field would allow for the coaches to better teach the girls about field placement and positioning. The commission asked questions regarding conflicts with mowing and with field use for other seasons. The commission felt that Dustin Huguenin should speak with Public Works in regards to field maintenance with the proposed temporary fencing.

MOVED (BOSCARINO) SECONDED (KRAUS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE ELLINGTON SOFTBALL LEAGUE TO INSTALL THE MARKERS INC 200' TEMPORARY HOME RUN FENCE PACKAGE.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: None

VI. RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT:

A. 2019-2020 FY budget update:

Dustin Huguenin provided an update on the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The budget passed the first round. The safety items needed for the beach will not be part of the capital improvement and therefore funding will not be allocated for them until the proposed 2019-2020 fiscal year budget passes. This won't be prior to the proposed opening of the beach which will affect the beach lifeguard chairs and the buoys. The Commission suggested that Dustin Huguenin speak with the First Selectman regarding budgeting for this prior to the 2019-2020 fiscal year in order to open the beach on a timely manner.

B. Winter program update:

Dustin Huguenin reviewed the conclusion of the winter programs; youth basketball should be wrapping up next week and adult competitive basketball has concluded for the year.

C. Spring/Summer program update:

Dustin Huguenin noted that we may work with Youth Services to develop a pamphlet to be mailed to each household. Mary Bartley discussed how it would reflect the older Ellington Connection flyer and have all programs offered by both

departments categorized by ages to help make it easier for the community to see what programs both departments have to offer. Dustin gave a brief update on the Rugged Farmer which is set to be held on April 27, 2019 at Brookside Park as well as the plan to participate in the Town of Ellington's Earth Day event that morning. Dustin updated the commission on the Lacrosse program. The evaluations for the 7/8th grade boys' lacrosse teams have concluded and they are working on finalizing all the assignments.

D. Trails committee update:

The trails committee is planning on doing Trail of Treats again on October 28, 2019. Shay Drake let the commission know she has been in touch with the trails committee and the Decide to Be Kind group would like to incorporate geocaching into the trails.

E. Review: food and beverage sales RFP:

Dustin reviewed the food and beverage sales policy and noted the 2019 RFP would not include Middle Road. He asked the commission their thoughts on multiple vendors and the commission noted that they recommend continuing to choose one vendor.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Finance: 2018-19 (revenue) budget review**
None
- B. Maintenance: Field usage**
None
- C. Operations: Attendance (program) recommendations**
None

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Discuss: Proposed attendance policy

Tom Boscarino discussed the Ellington Recreation Department Team Attendance Policy. The commission had a discussion regarding the policy and the concerns they feel may come up regarding the policy.

MOVED (BOSCARINO) SECONDED (COSTANZO) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE ELLINGTON RECREATION DEPARTMENT TEAM ATTENDANCE POLICY AS PROPOSED BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE WITH ONE MODIFICATION OF THE "REQUIRED MINIMUM PLAYING TIME" BE CHANGED TO THE "MAXIMUM PLAYING TIME" IN PARAGRAPH FIVE OF THE POLICY.

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Discuss: Tedford tribute

Gordon Oliver spoke with Joanne Tedford regarding a tribute to Robert Tedford. Oliver will set up a meeting with Joanne and the family to discuss the commissions ideas to pay tribute to Bob as well as what the family would like to see. Tom Boscarino wanted to confirm with the commission members that they felt renaming Brookside Park would be the best tribute. Gordy will get in touch with the family and reach out to the commission members when a date has been set to meet with Joanne Tedford.


B. Discuss: Disc Golf course

Sherry Kraus wanted to discuss with the commission the possibility of setting up a disc golf course somewhere in town. She noted that several surrounding towns have courses and they appear to be a low maintenance recreational activity. Dustin commented on his contribution in Southbury to the addition of a disc golf course during his time there. He mentioned the town facilities plan and incorporating ideas like this into the future of recreation programs in the Town of Ellington.

X. ADJOURN:

MOVED (BOSCARINO) SECONDED (KRAUS) AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN AT 8:56PM.

Submitted by:


Kristen Wasielewski