Parks and Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes: May 13, 2020
7:00 PM
Video Conference-Meeting via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gordon Oliver, Thomas Boscarino, Sherry Kraus, Shay Drake, Cheri Murphy, Tara Kozik

OTHERS PRESENT: Dustin Huguenin, Director of Recreation; Mary Bartley, Assistant Director of Recreation

AGENDA:

I. CALL TO ORDER: Gordon Oliver, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

II. CORRESPONDENCE: None

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: APRIL 8, 2020 Commission Meeting CANCELLED

IV. PUBLIC FORUM: None

V. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT: None

VI. RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT:
A. 2020-2021 FY budget update: Dustin reported that the Recreation budget requests are still in tact and that he made a few nominal cuts to the budget in order to maintain a 0% increase in the submitted budget. The BOF will be having their meeting tomorrow evening on May 14, 2020 to make further cuts if requested and to set the mil rate for the Town of Ellington. The BOF is making the decision on the Town Budget this year due to the COVID pandemic.
B. Spring program update: All Spring indoor and outdoor sports and activities have been cancelled due to the pandemic and state government executive orders.
C. Summer program update: the Summer Day Camp will be allowed as it is considered an essential program to be offered for families. The program will be held on a modified program capacity and with many state guidelines. The camp will be limited to 30 campers per week, hours will be adjusted to just full day only no before or after care allowed. No nonresidents allowed to participate in the program. Curb side pick-up and drop-off procedures, No Parents/Guardians allowed into the building. We will most likely change the program to a Summer Day Care program. The Community Garden Plots up at the Batz property will be ready for this weekend for the participants to go ahead and plant away their personal gardens at their leisure. This year we have 18 plots on the property.
D. Windermere Avenue Park Proposal: a discussion was had about how this proposal is not an Ellington Parks & Recreation project and that the commission has no interest in being a co-applicant of the park proposal at this time.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:
A. Finance: FY 2020 – 2021 Budget Dustin will report back to the commission after the 5/14/2020 BOF meeting.
B. Maintenance: Field usage: None
C. Operations: General policies for travel team - tabled to the next commission meeting.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS
A. Discuss: Disc Golf course: Dustin shared with the commission the update on the parking lot at the Stein Road project. He also shared that he received an email from the Trails Committee Chairman Lauren Desrocher that simply said that they are not in favor of the parks & recreation department to be installing a disk golf course on the property of Stein Road. T. Boscariino made the suggestion to the commission, which the First Selectman needs to call a meeting with both the Trails committee and the Recreation Commission present to discuss the full plans for this piece of Town property.
B. Discuss: Donated Lights: Removed from the BOE budget at this time.
C. Tedford Tribute Ad Hoc Committee: Tom Boscariino discussed that the term of the Adhoc Committee was completed on April 30th, 2020. There will be three tributes of the 3 plagues at EMS, EHS and Windermere Schools with the projection of having dedication ceremonies in the winter of 2020. Tom will coordinated with both Tim Webb from DPW and with Nick DiCorleto’s nephew in the discussions of the placement of the bench in Bob and Nick’s honor at Arbor Park. According to the finance department the remaining balance of the funds in the account will be kept open for future use and be utilized under the direction of the Parks & Recreation Director, Assistant Recreation Director and the Recreation Commission members.

IX. NEW BUSINESS: None

X. ADJOURN

MOTION (KRAUS) SECONDED (MURPHY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN AT 8:33 PM.

Submitted By:

Mary M. Bartley