



# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

## Ad Hoc Committee for the Robert Tedford Memorial

THOMAS BOSCARINO  
CHAIRMAN

SHERRY KRAUS  
VICE CHAIRMAN

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187  
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187

FELICIA LAPLANTE  
DUSTIN HUGUENIN  
LISA HOULIHAN  
JOANNE TEDFORD  
KATE TEDFORD  
TIMOTHY WEBB

Ad Hoc Committee for the Robert Tedford Memorial  
Special Meeting Minutes  
June 18, 2019  
Town Hall Meeting Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sherry Kraus, Felicia LaPlante, Thomas Boscarino, Lisa Houlihan, Joanne Tedford, Kate Tedford (arrived at 6:15 pm)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dustin Huguenin, Timothy Webb

OTHERS PRESENT: Mitchell Pawlowski, Julia Connor, Recording Secretary

### I. Call to Order

Chairman Boscarino called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

### II. Citizens' Forum [non-agenda items]: No citizens came forward.

### III. Approval of Minutes – May 30, 2019

Kate Tedford expressed her preference of the wording “appropriate marker” as opposed to the specific references of concrete items and plaques during the discussion of the project at the last meeting.

Joanne Tedford stated that during the discussion of the submission of memories and photos for a History of Ellington Recreation, the word contest didn't express what she had been trying to say.

**MOVED (HOULIHAN), SECONDED (KRAUS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 30, 2019 SPECIAL MEETING AS CLARIFIED.**

### IV. Unfinished Business

#### A. Meeting Schedule for 2019

Chairman Boscarino stated that it was important for the Committee to continue to meet regularly. He suggested that they meet at least monthly, with a possibility of coming together more frequently, such as every three weeks. The next meeting was set for Thursday, July 11 at 6:00 pm.

#### B. Discuss Project

Felicia LaPlante reported that in order to put memorial plaques in schools, the request would be submitted to the Board of Education Operations Committee and would then be put forward to the Board of Education for approval. Chairman Boscarino asked what the process would be for markers place on Town property, and Ms. LaPlante answered that it would go through the Board of Selectmen.

Chairman Boscarino stated that he knows some things will be short-term projects, and others will take a longer time to accomplish. He supports the Parks and Recreation Commission's vision of renaming Brookside Park to

include some variant of Robert Tedford's name. In addition to this, his personal vision also includes appropriate memorial markers placed at various locations around Town.

He also shared a thought regarding the inclusion of Robert Tedford in the naming of the future park at Stein Road; Ms. LaPlante expressed concern over two separate properties in Town sharing similar names, as that may cause some confusion. Sherry Kraus offered the option of placing a memorial bench or commemorating a memorial trail in Bob's honor at that location would be more appropriate.

Ms. LaPlante stated that the soil sample at the Stein property is already scheduled, and that she was willing to speak to the abutters of the property to gauge what their feelings are about the proposed project.

Mrs. Tedford spoke with Carl White of Ellington Printery; there had been an email trail between him and Bob regarding the new sign at Brookside Park. The current sign is 4' by 8' and is a separate piece from the bottom logo section, which was custom-made based on Bob's specifications. The bottom 1' by 8' piece can be unattached from the Brookside Park section and reattached to any new sign that is made.

Chairman Boscarino feels that it is important to make a decision to move forward on something soon.

Ms. LaPlante shared that the first donation to the Robert Tedford Memorial Fund was received today.

Mrs. Kraus's recollection from the last meeting was that the intent was to make a decision at tonight's meeting regarding the renaming of a park. Other individuals who had known and worked with Bob were spoken to, and it was reported that each of them were on board with the renaming of Brookside Park.

Many different names were brought up and discussed. The proposed name that was agreed upon by the members present was "Robert Tedford Memorial Park." Mrs. Tedford will work with Carl White of Ellington Printery to come up with a rough draft of a new sign, as well as a quote.

MOVED (SHERRY), SECONDED (HOULIHAN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN THE APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATION [ATTACHED] TO RENAME BROOKSIDE PARK TO ROBERT TEDFORD MEMORIAL PARK.

#### V. New Business

Mrs. Tedford asked if the Committee would be able to recommend that any surplus funding be used to create a scholarship in Bob's honor; Ms. LaPlante stated that the Town could not create a scholarship, but they could donate the funds to an existing outside scholarship program, designated in Bob's honor. Chairman Boscarino confirmed that the Committee could send funding to the Ellington Community Scholarship Association.

#### VI. Review Action Items

The application recommendation will be addressed at the Board of Selectmen meeting on July 8, 2019.

Ms. LaPlante will be in touch with the Board of Education regarding the process of installing memorial markers in the schools.

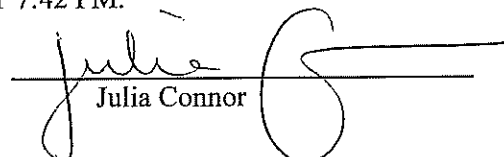
Donations of other memorial items, such as benches, would also go before the Board of Selectmen for acceptance.

The existence of the Robert Tedford Fund will be promoted, so that individuals who so wish can contribute to the proposed project and any other memorial efforts moving forward.

#### VII. ADJOURNMENT

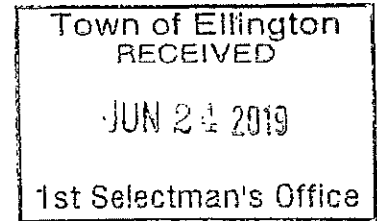
MOVED (LAPLANTE), SECONDED (HOULIHAN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:42 PM.

Submitted by

  
Julia Connor

# Application for Naming Town Buildings/Facilities

To: First Selectman's Office  
55 Main Street, P.O. Box 187  
Ellington, CT 06029



Date of Application June 2019

## Naming or Renaming

- Town-owned property: \_\_\_\_\_
- Existing Name: Brookside Park
- Proposed Rename if applicable: Robert Tedford Memorial Park

## Commemorative Designation

- Town owned property: \_\_\_\_\_
- Existing Name: \_\_\_\_\_
- Proposed Commemoration Rename: \_\_\_\_\_

A plaque or marker may be used on a building or facility to honor persons or individuals, even though the facility is not named after them.

**Biographical Information of Honoree:** If more space is required, please attach additional sheet(s).

Bob Tedford was the Parks and Recreation Director in Ellington for over forty years. He developed recreational activities for children and adults alike. His passion for meeting the needs of the town pushed him to create and support programs that met the desires, and the necessities of a growing town. Bob's dedication to the Town of Ellington was unmatched, as he frequently worked seven days a week and often late into the evening. Although there are far too many to name, Bob organized, planned and produced such activities as triathlons, lakefront activities, sporting programs and events, exercise programs, day camps, and the community garden. He worked tirelessly to meet the needs of every resident in Ellington.

Bob's character, moral standards, and values were exceptional and were upheld throughout his tenure in Ellington. Everything he accomplished over the years led the department in a positive and progressive manner, and he always did so with respect and dignity. He would not tolerate coaching, officiating, spectator, or player behavior that was detrimental to the children involved in the activities or to the programs. Bob was firm but always fair as he navigated through difficult or sensitive issues, and he was able to diffuse those issues before they became more advanced. He truly was a model for, not just the leaders in our town, but also for the residents.

Brookside Park is the cornerstone for the continued development of activities in Ellington. It will always be known as the birthplace of Parks and Recreation in our town. It is only fitting for it to be renamed the Robert Tedford Memorial Park as he is to be credited for his vision and development of a place that was little more than an open field, but is now a place for all members of our community to enjoy and appreciate.

The Parks and Recreation Commission and the Ad Hoc Committee for the Robert Tedford Memorial Park unanimously support the renaming of Brookside Park.

**Reasons for Nomination (Narrative):** If more space is required, please attach additional sheet(s). Please see "Policy for Naming Town Buildings/Facilities".

*Under special circumstances, the Board of Selectmen may deem it appropriate to recognize and honor an outstanding individual/citizen by naming a town-owned building, park, athletic field or any other facility, whole or part, after an individual/citizen who died an untimely, heroic or tragic death, if doing so would contribute to the general good and healing for the loss of the individual/citizen felt by the community.*

Bob's untimely death shocked and saddened many. It is only right that this change be made to support the general welfare and healing for the loss felt by our community. Bob's total commitment to our town will forever help us remember this man of high moral character and selfless dedication to a place and program he so deeply cared about.

Additional Information may be requested.

**Application should include:**

- a) A description and significance of the proposed naming or renaming.
- b) All terms and conditions of proposed naming or renaming, including all financial and other relevant terms, must be disclosed. (Please attach)

Ellington Parks and Recreation Department	860-250-0572		
Application Submitted by:	Phone:		
55 Main Street	Ellington	CT	06029
Street Address	Town	State	Zip Code

*Quoted price to modify the existing sign is \$1,000*

*This information is needed for notification purposes. Anonymous nominations will not be considered.*

**BOS Approved: March 21, 2019**