

MEETING MINUTES
Colchester Parks & Recreation Commission
August 10, 2015, 7:00 p.m.
Colchester Recreation Complex Pavilion

Members Present: C. Ferrante, N. Kaplan, L. Dimock, K. Moody, E. Kundahl, D. O'Brien and T. Loskant

Others Present: C. Preston, J. Paggioli, M. Voilland, P. McDowell, J. Blumberger, T. Daniels, R. Slasson

1. Call to Order

Chairman Ferrante called the August 10, 2015 meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

A walk through tour and inspection of the recreation complex began at this time. Meeting resumed at 7:59 p.m.

2. Citizen's Comments

None

3. Acceptance of Minutes: June 1, 2015

N. Kaplan MOTIONED to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2015 meeting. SECONDED by T. Loskant. All members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

E. Kundahl MOTIONED to add an agenda item: Discussion and Possible Action on Field Use Permits for PR3. SECONDED by K. Moody. All members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED. Item added as #12, all other items renumbered accordingly.

4. Reading of Correspondence

None

5. Committee Reports

- Facilities – E. Kundahl asked about the tennis court repairs, J. Paggioli reported the repairs are complete. L. Dimock addressed the vehicle seen driving across the fields during the walk through. C. Preston will send a reminder to leagues that vehicles are not allowed on the fields. Discussion took place about ATVs on the field in conjunction with men's softball. This issue has been addressed but a reminder will be sent. It was suggested that the league be warned their field permits may be in jeopardy. J. Paggioli expressed that this is another instance when it would be beneficial to have a Park Ranger in place. Vandalism and enforcement costs are being tracked to determine the feasibility.
- Finance/Administration – none
- Programs – none
- BOS Liaison – none
- BOF Liaison – none
- BOE Liaison – none

6. Discussion and Possible Action on the Eagle Scout Project at the Rec Plex

J. Paggioli presented the Eagle Scout plan to install two exercise stations and provided a map detailing locations and specifics of equipment. The scout is at camp this week but will attend the BOS meeting to present his plan. E. Kundahl MOTIONED to endorse the project and send it to the BOS for final approval. SECONDED by N. Kaplan. All members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on the update from Public Works on the fields at the Rec Plex

J. Paggiolo reported seeding and fertilizer has been applied based on the specifications provided by Jason Henderson from UConn. Dry weather is still a problem. The center of the Football field at Bacon has been hydroseeded and is being watered daily. The BOE supplied their share of the funds for repairs. The blockhouse water has been connected to the public water system so the water is now safe. The irrigation system on the Bacon baseball field has been repaired and coaches and maintenance staff have received instructions on the system. There are two fields planned for Johnston with the newly approved construction project.

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8. Discussion and Possible Action on Dogs on R8 during football games

P. McDowell requested help from the commission and town concerning injuries from dogs at youth football games on R8. Since the signs at the field state that dogs must be leashed it is difficult to tell people they can't bring dogs. C. Ferrante reported that Selectman Soby is reluctant to change any policy or signs concerning dogs on R8. As a permit holder, youth football can make their own policy concerning dogs.

9. Tri-board Update

None

10. Recreation Manager's Report

C. Preston presented a written report for review. She reported that sponsorships for summer events were up, but the 57 Fest sponsorships were down. C. Preston presented the program fund account report. She will be meeting with the BOF to discuss what will be done long term with the extra revenue in the account. C. Preston would like to change the Recreation Specialist Position from part-time to full-time. The part-time salary is already funded through this account. A request was made for additional ideas from the commission. N. Kaplan MOTIONED to accept the Recreation Manager's Report. SECONDED by K. Moody. All members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

11. Recreation Supervisor's Report

Written report submitted for review. C. Preston reported that camp was going well. Although campers were down by 15-20, kindercamp numbers were up. C. Ferrante asked about permits waiting on school approval. Meeting with the superintendent which included a promise that permits would be generated in a timely manner was referenced. C. Preston will send an email about the status of the permits.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on Field Use Permits for R3

Permit was issued to youth football for R3 for Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6-8. Soccer requested the same time slot. E. Kundahl explained that the commission had requested youth football use space on the upper fields to alleviate some wear and tear on R8. Soccer reported that many more players in their program are impacted by the loss of this area. They suggested several options that football could take so soccer could have the field from 5-6:30. One possible solution is for football to use the spillover light on R5 from 6-6:30 and then move to R3. Youth football coaches, youth soccer representatives and Parks & Recreation Commission representatives will meet on R5 Thursday, August 13th at 8 p.m., to determine if this is an acceptable solution.

13. General Comments

None

14. Adjournment

T. Loskant MOTIONED to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 pm. SECONDED by E. Kundahl. All members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lynette Dimock
Parks & Recreation Commission Secretary