

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL BY THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION.

The Parks and Recreation Commission held a regular meeting on Tuesday, August 9, 2016, in the conference room located at 3 Main Street in Newtown, CT.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ed Marks, at 6:02 pm.

Present: Edward Marks, Patrick Barczak, Maureen Crick Owen, Linda Hess, Warren Spencer, Vincent Yanni Jr., PJ Yochum.

Staff Present: Amy Mangold, Carl Samuelson.

Staff Absent: RoseAnn Reggiano

Public: Lt. Chris Vanghele, Newtown Police Department; Josh Hull, Newtown U18 Baseball; Linda Zukauskas, Voices News.

Public Participation:

Lt. Chris Vanghele, NPD came before the commission to discuss the posting of *Sex offenders Ordinance* signs. There are 28 designated areas in Newtown in which the signs will be posted. 13 of the 28 signs will be designated to the Parks and Recreation parks and fields. Lt. Chris Vanghele had solicited the help of Parks and Recreation Assistant Director of Parks, Carl Samuelson to post the signs that were designated to P&R. Lt. Vanghele asked for a list of the sites the signs will be posted. Lt. Vanghele stated that there haven't been any issues, but the NPD is acting on an ordinance that was put into place and needs to be implemented.

Josh Hall, with the U18 developmental team, came before the commission requesting field time and more information regarding User Organization Categories, as explained in the Field Use Manual. Mr. Hall explained to the commission that the U18 developmental team is part of the Greater New Haven League and has been in Newtown since 2012. The league itself has been around for 16 years. Mr. Hall and Mr. Rob Lombardo are currently the coaches for the U18 developmental team. The team is made up of high school Junior and Senior Boys that reside in Newtown. Mr. Hall explained to the commission that the Newtown team has never been able to host a home game due to limited field time and would like to make this possible in the next year. The commission explained to Mr. Hall that he currently falls under category D, as explained in the Field Use Manual. This U18 Developmental team does not currently host open tryouts and is not a 501c3. In order for the team to be a category C, (which give the team more priority field use at a reduced fee), the team will need to have open tryouts (which will need to be advertised to the public) and acquire a 501c3. Mr. Hall stated that he is going to try to accomplish this by the end of September 2016, before the first billing cycle. Mr. Marks asked Mr. Hall to return to P&R the end of September 2016, when the team has received its 501c3 and the criteria of an open tryout have been met.

Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion:

Commissioner Maureen Crick Owen made a motion to approve the Minutes from June 14, 2016 Commission Meeting. Commissioner Vincent Yanni Jr. seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Motion:

Corrections to the minutes from July 12, 2016 commission meeting are as follows:

- Under the category **Old Business** (*CIP planning and P&R priorities*), the sentence was changed *from*: Mr. Marks has requested that Assistant Director of Parks get pricing to finish the trail and to include *adding asses* ability up the steep part of the trail. *To*: Mr. Marks requested that Assistant Director of Parks get pricing to finish the trail and to include *accessibility* up the steep hill part of the trail.
- Under the category **Old Business** (*Community Center Advisory Committee Update*), NSA was changed to SFA.
- Under the category **Commissioners Out and About**, there is a spelling correction: Commissioner P.J. Yocum to P.J. Yochum.

Commissioner P.J. Yochum made a motion to approve as amended the minutes from July 12, 2016 Commission Meeting. Commissioner Maureen Crick Owen seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Old Business:

- *Community Center Advisory Committee Update:*

Director Amy Mangold and Commissioner Maureen Crick Owen had a conference call with the SFA team. Ms. Mangold will be providing details on current and future P&R programs. A conference call with the entire Community Center Advisory committee is scheduled on August 18, 2016.

- *CIP planning and P&R priorities:*

The commission reviewed, discussed and made some revisions to the P&R CIP Summary Worksheet for the 5 fiscal years 2017/2022:

- 2017-18 – Treadwell Pool Deck Replacement -\$400,000
 - Replace 25 year old existing pool deck and non-compliant fencing. Dilapidated deck has created numerous safety concerns in recent years.
- 2018-19 – Fairfield Hills Trail/Infrastructure -\$500,000
 - Complete multi-use trail around the perimeter of the campus as defined in the Fairfield Hills masterplan and future infrastructure needs.
- 2019-19 – Eichler’s Cove Improvements Phase II of II - \$500,000
- 2019-20 – Dickinson Bath house and Splashpad - \$850,000
 - Install Splashpad and associated bath house to support the water facility.
- 2019-20 – Tilson Turf Replacement - \$500,000 (funded through surcharge)
- 2020-21 – Dickinson Pavilion Replacement -\$450,000
 - Replace 50 year old pavilion that has served its useful life span.
- 2021-22 – Fairfield Hills Field Plan Phase I - \$1,000,000
- 2021-22 – Duplex remediation for P&R use and programing - \$800,000

Motion:

Commissioner Maureen Crick Owen made a motion to approve the preliminary P&R Department CIP plan as presented at Tuesday, August 9, 2016 commission meeting, to use for discussion with First Selectman Pat Llodra and Board of Selectmen. Commissioner Patrick Barczak seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The CIP requests – not approved by BOS in plan thru 2020-21:

- Waterfront Park Improvements \$500,000 (Alpine Drive and Lake Lillanonah)
- Maintenance Yard Improvements \$670,000 (Cold Storage building, greenhouse remediation)
- Fairfield Hills Field Plan Phase I \$900,000 (Multipurpose Fields & Event Space (Kent Hall))
- Treadwell Park Improvements \$1,000,000 (Pavilion – Bleachers)
- Fairfield Hills Duplex Remediation \$750,000 (P&R meeting/activity space/public bathrooms)
- Rail Trail Extension \$700,000 (Trailhead and parking)
- Treadwell Pool Renovations \$1,500,000

Additional Projects Considered:

1)FFH Campus Enhancements –e.g., tennis, basketball, pickleball, orchard, playground; 2) Bike Trails-Rails to Trails, mountain bike trails, street bike lanes-including funding for legal research; 3)Teen Center Renovation; 4)Playground Replacements–Dickinson & Treadwell; 5)Lake Lillinonah or Zoar Boathouse/Pavilion; 6) A New Town Park-in addition to Treadwell & Dickinson; 7) Large Pavilion or Bandshell-similar to Levitt Pavilion in Westport; 8)Treadwell Park Improvements-pavilion repair/replacement & bleacher installation; 9)Wetland Education at Dickinson Park – additional phases of Cohen/Mangold plan; 10) Portable Bandstage; 11)Treadwell Park Expansion-expand park through trails & use of old SAC footprint; 12) Pole Bridge Preserve Improvements; 13) All Field Replacements; 14) Farm/Orchard Park; 15) Dickinson Park Real Estate purchase-buy adjoining residence when available; 16) Artificial Turf installation at lighted High School back field; 17) Frisbee Golf Course; 18) Ice Hockey Rink; 19) Fairfield Hills Field Plan-phase II

New Business:

- *Parks and Recreation Surcharge Account Review:* tabled to until next meeting

Correspondence: Ms. Reggiano received a hand written note thanking Ms. Reggiano and Newtown Parks and Recreation for a *great Summer Day Camp program and terrific counselors.*

Director's Report:

Amy Mangold, Director of Parks and Recreation:

- Ms. Mangold was excited to discuss a possible new program of Disc Golf. Ms. Mangold had a meeting with Brian Giggey, owner of Explore Disc Golf. This is a company that provides full service disc golf design and build. The company has given an estimate of \$21,000.00, to design, build and provide programs and ideas to run a Disc Golf course. The plan would be for a 9 or 18 hole course over 24 acres. A preliminary thought of location is behind Treadwell Park. It was suggested that Mr. Rob Sibley, Deputy Director of Planning and Land Use meet with Mr. Giggey to look at the property to see if it can be done.
- Ms. Mangold explained to the commission that 2 temporary Pickleball courts will be placed up at Fairfield Hills Campus. The courts are located in an unused parking lot over by the ambulance garage. The lines for the courts will be painted as soon as possible and temporary nets will be set up.
- The first Parks and Recreation outdoor movie, co-sponsored by Newtown Prevention Council, was held at Fairfield Hills Soccer Field on Tuesday, August 9, 2016, at 7:30pm. The movie was *Zootopia* and was free to the public.
- P&R and Friends of Newtown Seniors will be co-sponsoring a free concert at Dickinson Park to Honor National Grandparents Day and the 15th Anniversary of September 11th on Sunday, September 11, 2016 at 2:30pm. The name of the band is *Survivors Swing Band*.

Carl Samuelson, Assistant Director of Parks:

- Summer Day Camp is coming to an end. The concert series duties, grooming, and playground use are still in full swing. Fall sports will start in 3 weeks.
- Completing the planting bed, patching the driveway, and completing the retaining wall at the basketball court at Treadwell Park will be priorities.
- Treadwell Pool continues to run smooth although there has been a slight uptick in vandalism. The current temporary camera system has not been very effective, as the system itself is pretty limited. Permanent high resolution cameras will be much better.
- Fairfield Hill campus duties continue to grow, but overall things are in good shape. Dog bag usage has exceeded 24,000 bags for the summer.
- Construction of Glander 3 is going very well. Irrigation work is being completed. Laser grading is almost complete and all of the clay is now in place. Seeding and sodding is anticipated to begin in the next 10 days.
- Irrigation repairs are now complete on Treadwell Softball Field. Fall football starts on Treadwell Field this week.
- Recent lightning strike that damaged part of the irrigation system electronics at the NHS Fields is currently being repaired. There will be limited water until repair is completed.

- Things are going good at the Dog Park. One water fountain was recently damaged and parts are on order for the repair.

Commissioners Out and About:

Commissioner Maureen Owen Crick attended the Summer Day Camp Talent Show and thoroughly enjoyed the show. Ms. Owen Crick also attended a concert at Dickinson Park, on Thursday, August 4, 2016. Commissioner Warren Spencer also attended the *Jay Willie Blues Band* at Dickinson Park on Thursday, August 4, 2016.

Motion:

Commissioner Vincent Yanni Jr. made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 pm. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Warren Spencer, which was carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 13, 2016 at 6:00 pm at 3 Main Street, Newtown, CT in the conference room.

Submitted, Gabriella Chernoff, clerk