

Willington Parks & Recreation Commission

Town Offices, 40 Old Farms Road, Willington, Connecticut 06279 (860) 487-3108

MINUTES

Regular Meeting - February 22, 2021

Virtual - Zoom Meeting

- I. Call to order**
 - 7:15 p.m.
 - WPRC Members in attendance: Joe Colangelo, Mike Pinatti, Mike Iacampo, and Ed Taiman were in attendance.
 - WPRC Members absent: Bill Bilyak, Rocco Petrella, and Katherine St. Germain
 - Attending Non-Members: Bethany Cologna, Willington Parks and Recreation Director.
- II. General discussion and open forum for anyone present. Joe Colangelo will allot time for discussion and individual requests to speak.**
 - No one in attendance.
- III. Approval of Minutes**
 - The minutes from the previous WPRC meeting (12-14-20) were reviewed without changes. Mike Iacampo made a motion to accept the minutes without changes, which was seconded by Ed Taiman. All members were unanimous in approval.
- IV. Directors Report:**
 - A. Director's report was submitted as follows:
 - a. Due to COVID restrictions we are preparing for a "limited" Summer Camp and possibly not waterfront. These are both TBD based on where state restrictions stand now, and how they may be eased going forward. Human Services formally contributed to Summer Camp with a portion of their budget. This year they will not participate, and that "Summer Camp" portion of their budget should be allocated in a different way to continue supporting the camp.
 - b. Center and Hall School are both undergoing roof replacements this summer, leaving them unavailable for Summer Camp. A possible solution could be using the RRAC pavilion with [2] groups of [32] attendees. This would require hand washing stations, use of the portable toilet on site, a food program, and distribution of potable water. If the pavilion is not large enough for both groups, we could install a tent for the second group and

store folding chairs and tables in the shed near the parking lot. Bethany is working on programs for this year's camp that may help replace the loss of the waterfront. This could include water balloon tossing, sprinklers and similar games. The camp dates would be July 12th through August 20th. More discussion will be held on the camp at our upcoming meeting and with email correspondence. We are very hopeful that camp will occur.

- c. Concerts in The Park are scheduled for this summer.
- d. CT Celtic is requesting use of the soccer fields at the RRAC, and CABL Vernon Baseball is requesting use of the Town Hall Baseball field. Both are summer leagues, and we will work with them to get their programs on our fields.
- e. The scoreboard project at the Town Office Fields is planned for installation this summer.
- f. The town fields that are maintained by the WPRC budget, RRAC-Hall School-Center School-Town Hall Fields, have separate line items for standard mowing and maintenance. The fertilizing is a separate line item on the budget. Tony Sposato our Public Works Director made a great suggestion that the fertilizing budget line be moved to the mowing/maintenance line and made the responsibility of the company contracted to mow our fields. That company spreads the fertilizer in their contract so having them provide the fertilizer seems logical.
- g. The RRAC soccer field needs some TLC this spring. We will attempt to keep the sprinklers running when possible and necessary.
- h. The snowshoe loaner program saw some use this winter due to the real snowfall we experienced! The kayak program is ready for spring.
- i. Willington Day will be moved to August this summer in the hope that COVID restrictions may be less strict allowing for attendees and food services. The event will be held at the RRAC. WPRC is considering a 3 on 3 basketball competition or other basketball skills competition.
- j. Bethany will contact the Storrs Adventure Park regarding discount tickets for distribution by Parks and Rec.

IV. Old Business:

- A. The progress of the RRAC new pole lighting project are as follows:

- The Public Works Department has installed the conduit and pole bases for the new lighting project which will light the basketball court, volleyball court, playscape, and flagpole.
- Once the weather allows, a crew will pull in wiring and set the poles. The poles are at the Beacon Light and supply warehouse in Manchester and ready for delivery to the RRAC.

V. New Businesses:

- There was no new business.

VI. Adjourn:

- Mike Pinatti motioned to adjourn, which was seconded by Ed Taiman. The meeting adjourned at 8:15PM. The next meeting is scheduled for March 29th at 7:00PM as a ZOOM meeting.

Respectfully submitted 3-7-2021

Joseph C. Colangelo

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