

Willington Parks and Recreation Commission

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

Committee Minutes

ZOOM Meeting

March 29, 2021

Attending Members: Joe Colangelo, Mike Pinatti, Mike Iacampo, Rocco Petrella and Ed Taiman were in attendance.

Attending Non-Members: Bethany Cologna, Willington Parks and Recreation Director.

Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM.

I. CALL TO ORDER / APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes from the previous WPRC meeting (2-22-21) were reviewed without changes. Mike Pinatti made a motion to accept the minutes without changes, which was seconded by Rocco Petrella. All members were unanimous in approval.

II. GENERAL DISCUSSION / PRESENT TO SPEAK

There were no townspeople present to speak.

III. DIRECTORS REPORT:

A. Director's report was submitted as follows:

- a. Bus trips are on hold due to COVID protocols.
- b. Wednesdays In the Park, our summer concert series is scheduled to occur July 7th through August 18th.
- c. The Recreation Department Budget was accepted by the BOF for the fiscal year 21/22.
- d. Fence repairs for the parking rail at the RRAC and outfield fence at the Town Office Field have been requested and we are waiting for a price from Kent Fencing.

- e. The new site lights for basketball, volleyball, the flagpole and the playscape are scheduled for installation the week of April 26th.
- f. A portable toilet has been provided for the RRAC. Pricing is up this year. A possible way to offset this may be to remove the toilet earlier than November based on field use.
- g. Part of the new budget is for topsoil and overseeding at the RRAC soccer field. Presently CT Celtic wants to help in the process but is looking to use ½ the field this season while the other ½ is blocked off for maintenance. We are also renting the field to the NEU group who needs the entire field for their use. Using the Town Office baseball field for soccer practice was discussed. The consensus with our group was that fall overseeding and topsoil may be the best option.
- h. CABL, a men's baseball group is renting the 90' basepath field at the Town Office Building this season looking for an April 11th start. We will place a portable toilet there before the start date.
- i. Fertilizer for all our fields has been purchased and delivered. It will be spread by the company providing mowing and maintenance of our fields.
- j. A new program called the American Relief Fund may be helping towns with money to fill in gaps for Recreation programs that are having difficulty operating properly during COVID due to smaller numbers of participants. This may help with our summer camp and waterfront programs. Not knowing what the upcoming rules will be for assembly based on COVID protocols indoors and outdoors makes it difficult to prepare programs based on attendance and location. If we can open the waterfront this season, a container will be purchased for storage of the equipment related to the waterfront. Summer camp and summer school were considered as being combined this year, but the differing rules for each group may make that difficult. We are discussing how to handle summer camp but are considering using the pavilion at the RRAC. If the American Relief Fund allows, we could rent a bus to drive campers to the waterfront. This is all in consideration, but not finalized. Acquiring lifeguards is ongoing.
- k. Angel Pond Creations will be working with the Recreation Department at the RRAC to provide Projects in the Park on April 29th, May 27th, and June 24th from 6PM to 8PM.
- l. A virtual arts and crafts program has been considered for a future date. A virtual cooking class has been created and will occur on April 19th from 11AM to 12PM.
- m. Indoor Pickleball is on hold until an indoor location is available. We are working on outdoor Pickleball events once the weather breaks.
- n. An outdoor basketball clinic and league is being considered for the RRAC this summer. Possibly under the lights as the season progresses and days become hotter.
- o. Indoor volleyball is also on hold for the same reasons as Pickleball.
- p. Golf lessons are being offered at Skunkamaug Golf Course from May through September.

q. The Willington Wire is ready for its next issue to be delivered in April.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business.

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

Mike Pinatti motioned to adjourn, which was seconded by Ed Taiman. The meeting adjourned at 7:57PM. The next meeting is scheduled for April 26th at 7:00PM as a ZOOM meeting.

Respectfully submitted 4-25-2021.

Joseph C. Colangelo

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TOWN CLERK