

NEWINGTON PARKS & RECREATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TUESDAY, February 18, 2020

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IN NEWINGTON, CT

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Town Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER

Jay Bottalico called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Don Woods, Eileen Francolino, Bill DeBlasio, Anthony Kulowski, Matthew Kulowski, Nicole Pane, Jay Bottalico, Mike Karanian, Roberta Byron-Kolej

Board Members Absent: Ed Marchion, Jennifer Win-Johnson

Town Council representatives Absent: Carol Anest, Tim Manke

Staff Present: Superintendent William DeMaio

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION: A motion was made by Nicole Pane to approve the minutes of January 21, 2020. Eileen Francolino seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mady Kenny of 53 Crestview Drive came to speak at the meeting. She wanted to say thank you for the trees on Crestview Drive that were planted. She also wanted to say thank you for senior swim and finding it in the budget to extend senior swim though the duration of the swim season. She also asks that the department highlight senior swim in the brochure so that all seniors are aware that it is something that is offered to them.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

Superintendent DeMaio and Sue DeMaio sent a thank you to the Board for the basket of Italian treats.

VII. SUMMARY REPORTS

- a. Monthly reports January 2020
- b. Tree warden reports January 2020

The board reviewed the reports. There was no discussion or questions.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

NONE

MOTION: A motion was made by Eileen Francolino to add the Eagle Scout project to new business. Bill DeBlasio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

a. Eagle Scout Cedar Mountain Project

The project will take place at Cedar Mountain on the greenway trail. The goal of the project is to install four steel bollards that will be marked and have their own Google plus point. They each can be scanned and have their own individual coordinates. This helps with people getting lost and for emergency responders to find people's location better. There is no map of the trail so this will be mapped as well. There will be one on display at Mountain Road and one by the Humane Society on Russel Road.

MOTION: A motion was made by Bill DeBlasio to accept the Eagle Scout project. Nicole Pane seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Soccer Club of Newington and CGSA- Field Usage

Phil Knowlton, the president of the Soccer Club of Newington and Josh Krusewski, executive director of CGSA came to speak on behalf of the Soccer Club of Newington. They spoke about the participation in soccer and how it has changed over the years. Parents have a great expectation of the level of play that happens in the programs, the coaches, and the fields. The soccer club has about 650 kids in the fall and the spring and an additional 150 for their summer and winter camps. The soccer club appreciates all that Parks and Recreation does but they hope to improve the field quality of the soccer fields in town and put in place the necessary irrigation systems to make the field quality playable at all times. The program is growing and they would like to keep things like tournaments and playoff games in town. When the fields are not kept up then parents are more prone to take their kids to play in other leagues which hurts the towns program. The soccer club also wants to make sure parents and children don't have to deal with the canceling of practice and games due to the field conditions.

c. Preschool Temporary Fencing

There is a room set for the Preschool in the new Community Center. The state licensing department has a set of rules we need to abide by. There needs to be a fenced in area for the preschoolers to play. The area needs to be fenced away from the pond. The area will be located near the opening towards the back of the baseball field at Mill Pond. There will be a 60x60 temporary fenced area for them to play safely in. If the new plans for Mill Pond Park go through there is already a fenced in area included in those plans.

MOTION: A motion was made by Bill DeBlasio to allow the preschool temporary fencing to be put up behind the backstop at Mill Pond Park. Roberta Byron-Kolej seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

X. REPORTS

a. Town Hall Community Center Update

The building progress is on schedule as the weather has been good. The building is anticipated to be turned over on July 14th. As of the end of the month it will be about 55% completed. The building meets ADA compliance but they are exploring the option of adding an additional walkway. The solar panels on the roof are not part of the project as of right now.

b. Budget Update- March 10th at 7pm

The budget process is happening currently. The next budget meeting is March 10th at 7pm for those who want to attend.

c. Cemetery Report

The report was emailed to Board members for review. Superintendent DeMaio just wanted to bring it to everyone's attention that there are three cemeteries in Newington and the department does a lot with their upkeep.

d. Veterans Memorial Trailer

The Veteran's Memorial Trailer is being built by the Parks division. The flags and bunting for the trailer have been ordered. 63 of the 320 spots for names have been sold. More ads and information will be shared soon.

e. Water Lantern Festival Update- April 25th

The festival will be coming back Saturday, April 25th. Volunteer sign ups were passed out to the Board.

f. Motorcycle Madness Update- May 21st

The Motorcycle Madness event will be coming back on Thursday, May 21st. Volunteer sign ups were passed out for Board members to sign up.

g. Touch a Truck – June 20th

Touch a truck will be on Saturday, June 20th. There will be public works trucks, Parks equipment and private company's equipment for the kids to play on. It is free for companies to bring their trucks. A fundraiser will take place there for the all night graduation party. If companies are interested they can contact Joe Harvey for a spot.

h. Camp Carnival Days- July 15th & 16th

The camp carnival days for campers will be back this summer for them to come for field trip. There are already 1100 people signed up for Wednesday and now moving on to Thursday where another 650 kids signed up. 40% of revenue will be for Parks & Recreation. 30% of food will also go to Parks & Recreation.

i. Extravaganza Update – July 14th – 18th

The Extravaganza week will take place July 14th – 18th. Many sponsors are coming back again. There will be some new bands coming in. Craft beer night will take place again on Friday night July 17th.

j. Spring Brochure

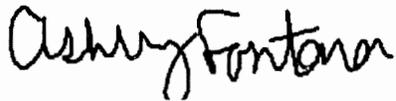
The spring brochure is out to the papers and will be out by the end of the month to the public.

XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
NONE

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Eileen Francolino made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bill DeBlasio seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:47pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ashley Fontana". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ashley Fontana