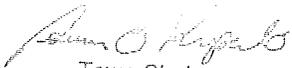


NEWINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2019

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
IN NEWINGTON, CT

2019 JUN 18 PM 4: 07


Town Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Don Woods at 7:05 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Don Woods, Eileen Francolino, Bill DeBlasio, Beth Manke-Hutvagner, Jen Win-Johnson, Ed Marchion
Board Members Absent- Mary Beth Kelliher, Sue Reniewicz, Michael Lenares, James Cultrera Alan Nafis

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Beth Manke Hutvagner made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2019 meeting. Bill DeBlasio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

NONE

V. CORRESPONDENCE

Copies of correspondence were provided to the Board. They included thank you notes from Cub Scout Pack 347 and Christa Cote, the coordinator of the Ciara McDermott Basketball Classic. Additional correspondence included a note from Valerie Stolfi Collins, the Director of CRPA. She expressed her gratitude for the phone calls made to elected officials asking that they not support HB 7003. Superintendent DeMaio explained that the bill would have placed a moratorium on the use of crumb rubber on fields and playgrounds. This would have placed a heavy burden of the maintenance of our fields and playgrounds. Additionally, a thank you note from Seedership was provided. This company met with the superintendent in an effort to market their kindness software program. It would be effective in quantifying how many good things are happening around town. Use of the software is TBD.

VI. SUMMARY REPORT

All reports were provided. Superintendent DeMaio reported that Tom LaPierre is now a mechanic but is still serving as tree warden. He is looking for staff to take the class and get certified.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

NONE

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Memorial Day Parade-

Board members were asked to sign up to walk in the parade and to wear blue shirts. In addition, Superintendent DeMaio explained that due to the construction process, post parade festivities will be held in the gym. The parade committee asked for a fee waiver. Some discussion followed as to where the money was going to come from to cover the cost (facilities v P&R). When fee waivers are granted, the department is left to raise the money to cover them. There is no budget (tax dollars) allotted to the department to cover these costs. Currently P&R raises about two million dollars. Without this money, the taxpayer could expect an increase of roughly 1 mill (about \$166-177 dollars per year). While the department works hard to be good neighbors, it is important to remember that funds are limited.

Jen Win-Johnson made a motion to waive the fee for gym rental (\$200) for the Newington Memorial Day Parade Committee. Bill DeBlasio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Relay For Life

The event will take place at Mill Pond Park on June 14th. This year it will be on a scaled down version as there will be no sleeping over. The concession stand will be open for business. Bill DeBlasio made a motion to rent Mill Pond Park for the Relay for Life on June 14, 2019 for \$1600. Beth Manke-Hutvagner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Claire Young-Memorial Bench

A generous donation of \$2000 from Claire Young was received for a memorial bench. The bench and plaque will be located on the east side of Mill Pond.

Fee Waivers

- Bill DeBlasio made a motion to waive the fee for a booth rental at Motorcycle Madness(\$50) for the Rotary Club. Ed Marchion seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Ed Marchion made a motion to waive the fee for a booth rental at Motorcycle Madness (\$50) for the Lucy Robbins Welles Library. Jen Win-Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with one abstention.
- Jen Win-Johnson made a motion to waive the fee for a booth rental at Motorcycle Madness (\$50) for the Chamber of Commerce. Bill DeBlasio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Beth Manke-Hutvagner made a motion to waive the fee for a booth rental at the Life. Be in It Extravaganza (\$45) for the 150th Anniversary Committee. Bill DeBlasio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with one abstention.
- Bill DeBlasio made a motion to waive the fee for a booth rental at the Life. Be in it Extravaganza (\$45) for the Lucy Robbins Welles Library. The motion was seconded by Beth Manke-Hutvagner. The motion passed unanimously with one abstention.

- Eileen Francolino made a motion to waive the fee for a booth rental at the Life. Be in it Extravaganza (\$45) for the Newington Senior and Disabled Center. The motion was seconded by Ed Marchion. The motion passed unanimously.

Fencing For Center Cemetery

A sample of the new fencing to be used at the center cemetery was shown.

The new fencing is made of construction grade vinyl and will require much less maintenance. Bill DeBlasio made a motion to approve the new fencing for the Center Cemetery. Eileen Francolino seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Fireworks

Bill DeBlasio made a motion to approve fireworks at Motorcycle Madness on May 16, 2019 and at the Life. Be in it Extravaganza on July 20, 2019. Ed Marchion seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Drones

Superintendent DeMaio reported that according to the Charter, the Board has jurisdiction over the air space in the park. The department was approached by a vendor aiming to charge extravagant fees for drone footage. His requests were denied especially given the fine footage provided by Scott Greczkowski and Tom Greca from the Water Lantern Festival. A motion was made by Jen Win-Johnson to give the Superintendent of Parks and Recreation final approval for all agreements for the use of drones by up to six companies at our special events in our parks. The motion was seconded by Beth Mane-Hutvagner. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. REPORTS

Eagle Scout Projects include accessible picnic tables at the Skate Park and improvements to the field at Center School.

Churchill Pool Building Construction-Superintendent DeMaio reported that the building is in bad shape. Work is being to the foundation and to replace steel beams. Estimated cost is roughly \$40,000. The funds will be taken from the Emmanuel Christian field irrigation project. The goal is to make the building safe in time for its summer opening. The hope is to replace the funds for the irrigation project later in the year. Superintendent Demaio also reported that the cost to paint the pool was estimated to be \$16,000.

Water Lantern Festival

The festival was a huge hit and enjoyed by all. The event had a good family feel. The 17 food trucks could not keep up as business was great. The department made a net profit of \$12,700. Great work by all.

Library Parking Lot

The department expects to hydroseed soon-weather pending.

Summer Camp

The last day to register for the early bird price is Saturday May 18, 2019. Registration festivities will take place at Rosenberg Orthodontics at 11:00 am.

Volunteers for Motorcycle Madness

Board members signed up to volunteer at the event

Kindness Counts Volunteers

Signs are scheduled to be delivered between 5/11-5/15. There are currently over 270 signs to be placed around town. The project seems to be producing good will.

Painting Churchill Pool

Cost estimated at \$16000

Town Hall Community Center Update

It is exciting to see that work has begun. The committee is scheduled to meet May 1st.

Budget Update

The budget has passed with only minor cuts to the department's requests. The plan is to look for donations to fill the gap.

Motorcycle Madness

The cost for police has gone up tremendously this year. There will be an increase in the number of police at the event due to the anticipated attendance. The cost is reaching a prohibitive level and the hope is that the funds allocated to the police department for community policing will be increased in the future.

Extravaganza

Things seem to be going well. There are 9 radio stations expected to promote the event. Nine towns have agreed to send their camps to enjoy the carnival. Hope for good weather!

Summer Brochure

Copies of the summer brochure were provided.

Touch a Truck

The event is scheduled for June 15th from 10-12. The plan is to clean up Relay For Life and get ready for the event. The Great Ping Pong Drop is scheduled for noon. It will benefit the after graduation celebration.

X. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
NONE

XI. ADJOURNMENT
Beth Manke- Hutvagner made a motion to adjourn. Ed Marchion seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen Francolino