

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

MEETING
September 9, 2019

Subject to Commission Approval

The Meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairman Szymanski at 6 PM in the Parks and Recreation office, Town Hall Annex, 25 School St., East Windsor, CT

PRESENT: Chairman Commissioners Szymanski, Bagdikian, Simpkins and Taylor; Director Maltese, Recreation Lead Charette and A. Irene Mosher from the Park Office.

ABSENT: None

ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM:

A quorum was established as three (3) Commissioners were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: To APPROVE minutes of the July 8, 2019 Meeting as written

Simpkins moved/Bagdikian second/VOTE: In favor: Unanimous

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. East Windsor Dog Park Barktoberfest – October 5, 2019
No report.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Financial accounts review
The Commissioners were given the year end financial statement for fiscal 2019 and the financial statement to date for fiscal year 2020. In fiscal 2019 there was some money returned to general fund. The report for fiscal 2019 is close to accurate but a few items are still remaining to be paid. The Director is looking closely at the Supplies and Equipment line and intends to bring it more in line with the amount budgeted. There were some one-time purchase that won't have to be repeated. There will be a reduction in Part time salaries so that total will go down next year. Spending has just begun for the fiscal 2020 budget. An overtime line added to avoid accumulating large amounts of comp time. The Director and the Recreation Lead have meetings and events that do not fall during normal business hours. Treasurers office and Board of Finance

have agreed to provide an overtime line. The number amount was chosen by Treasurer's office and will be reassessed for the next fiscal year.

b. EWP Seasonal Update

The Commissioners were given a copy of the 3-year comparison of income for East Windsor Park. This comparison breaks down week attendance by day vs weekend and resident vs nonresident. The snack bar is still open once a week for the car show through the month of September. Therefore, the snack bar amount is not complete. This year saw an increase in the number of season passes sold. 28 for this year vs 8 for last year. During the winter, the director and staff will be looking over ideas for passes for then next season with the hope that the splash pad will be completed. The fact that we now have the ability to accept payments on line, has greatly helped the registration process which in turn has helped the income.

c. Aquatic Update

Recreation Lead Charette reported a successful summer. The income for swimming has increased every year. There were 56 different swimmers of which 45% came from children attending the summer camp. There was good mix of new and returning students in the 113 registrants, 79 residents vs 34 nonresidents There were new signs in front of the beach encouraging parents to watch their children instead of their phones. A number of parents comment on how great they thought the signs were.

The Summer Fun camp averaged 50-55 each week with a total of 106 different children who attending of which 54 were residents and 52 were nonresidents. Participants came from 11 different towns This year groups were given names based on the theme for the week which added to program. There were no major issues with camp attendees this year.

There was an Increase in alcohol use this year. Director Maltese is talking with police and possibly of having an alcohol compliance person particularly during busy days.

d. Park Director's Report

Director Maltese gave the Commission members a packet with Capital budget requisitions. Since the external email has been down the director was not able to have all the vendor quotes yet but was given permission to submit the request as place holders until the final quotes could be obtained. The items include the following:

1. Basketball court expansion which would involve turning the present court and adding a second court. Commissioner Szymanski raised the concern that the courts would then cause the sun to be directly in the eyes of the players during the summer.

2. Expansion and renovation (repair) of other sports fields. Over the last 10 years there has been an increase in the number of field requests from the youth sports leagues as well as private rentals. The current fields have never been put on a
3. rotation schedule to allow for the fields to be rested and or resodded in areas of need. The fields are being utilized almost six days a week in some locations.
4. Playground replacement. The purpose of this project is to bring all playgrounds up to code and meet the newest safety standards to ensure proper play and safety for all users. The age of current equipment is making it difficult to purchase replacement parts. Playground located at EW Park should be updated to attract more patrons to the park which would then increase revenue. Phase 2 of the Boundless Playground is long overdue and would allow for more free play for all abilities. The playgrounds at Pierce Park and Prospect Hill Park as well as smaller amenities at EW Park will also need to be updated and brought up to standard and maintained.
5. Park and Rec Master Plan. A group would be hired to do an assessment of all the town parks with a cost of 20 to 30 thousand dollars. These experts would help to make plans properly by identifying the scope of service and establishing goals and visions for each park.

Each commissioner was given a fall program brochure which will be used at school open houses as well as being available at town hall. The department will once again host the Haunted Happenings on October 24, 2019 at East Windsor High School with the East Windsor PTO. The Tiny Tots soccer program will begin Thursday. Polar Express tickets will be available next week and other afterschool programs will begin November.

The Director stated that she is grateful for her staff during the summer; for their hard work and dedication to all programs and parks.

Abbe Road Soccer Complex/Broad Brook Pond Park/Warehouse Point (Osborne Field) Park

e. 2020 Meeting Dates

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE 2020 MEETING DATES AS PRESENTED

Bagdikian moved/Taylor second /VOTE: In favor: Unanimous

CORRESPONDENCE

None

MISCELLANEOUS

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Bills were approved by Commissioner Bagdikian

ADJOURMENT

MOTION: To AJOURN MEETING AT 6:39 pm
Simpkins moved/Bagdikian second/Vote: In favor Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted

Alma Irene Mosher, Recording Secretary