

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

MEETING  
May 11,2020

Subject to Commission Approval

Meeting held via ZOOM Teleconference  
Meeting ID: 927 422 6950  
Town Annex closed to the public by  
Executive Order of First Selectman Jason E. Bowsza  
Due to Coronavirus pandemic

The Meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairman Szymanski at 6:09 PM.

**PRESENT:** Chairman Szymanski, Commissioners Bagdikian and Taylor; Board of Selectman Liaison DeSousa; Director Maltese, Aquatics Director Charette and A. Irene Mosher from the Park Office.

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Simpkins

**ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM:**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: To APPROVE minutes of March 9, 2020 Meeting as written**

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

**MOTION TO MOVE AGENDA ITEM**

**Motion was made by Director Maltese to discuss agenda item VI-E before Old Business**

**Taylor Moved/Bagdikian second/VOTE: In favor: Unanimous**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

a. East Windsor Dog Park

Director Maltese stated that East Windsor Dog Park has been closed due to COVID-19. This has allowed the volunteers to do some things done. They are planning to top dress the parking lot, do some stone dust replacement in park, install more dog waste bags to accommodate social distancing. Commissioner Taylor asked if there would be a limit to the number of dogs allowed in the park at any given time. Director Maltese stated that no direct guidelines had yet been received. They are working on creating signage to address these

issues. The Animal Control Officer has been doing a great job checking the Park on a regular basis. They are still planning on doing Barktoberfest October 3, 2021 in conjunction with the Walk for Abby.

b. Budget 2020-2021

Last week the Board of Finance passed the budget for the fiscal year 2021. The Parks and Rec budget was approved as requested.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

a. Financial accounts review

Director Maltese stated that the Town has moved to a new accounting system and a report was not available for this meeting but will be sent to the Commissioners.

b. Updates on Splash Pad and Abbe Road Bathroom

The bathroom project on Abbe Road is progressing nicely. All the trenching has been done and conduit is in place. Conduit for extra lighting was also laid so if in the future, more lighting can be added the conduit is in place. Director Maltese stated that they are waiting for the unit to arrive and that a crane will have to be rented to lift the unit from the truck and put it in place. So Joe Sauerhoefer is working to coordinate that.

The Splash Pad went out to bid and the lowest bid from Aqua-Turf Irrigation was accepted. The project is on schedule. The fixtures will be purchased separately. The State Department of Health has given the green light to proceed. It will be necessary to add two showers to the back of the Snack Bar.

Commissioner Szymanski asked if they had to dig a new well. Director Maltese stated that they will be using an 8000 gal. holding tank and have made improvements on the existing well.

c. Eagle Scout Project

Matthew Emerson presented his Eagle Scout Project. The goal of this project is to provide public fishing areas within the Town of East Windsor with special recycling bins for nylon fishing lines. At least five bins will be built and placed in at least two town parts for proper fishing line disposal. The bins will be built according to the Boat U.S. Foundation guidelines.

Benefit: High density fishing line, also called monofilament line, can hurt wildlife and impacts the environment if thrown in the trash. If the line ends up in a landfill, animals try to eat or build nests out of the material and become injured or bring the lines back into the environment. The line cannot be recycled in household recycling bins. Many people just cut their line and leave it at their fishing site. By providing easy to use recycling bins where people fish, it will help East Windsor Parks and Rec by allowing them to properly dispose of the fishing line.

There was a great deal of discussion among the Commissioners. Director Maltese stated that she would like to see at least two bins be placed at Broad Brook Pond since that is a main fishing area. Commissioner Szymanski asked who would track the amount collected and Commissioner Taylor asked who would be responsible for checking the bins. Matthew stated that these duties would be handled by the scout troop. Matthew also stated that when sufficient amount was collected it would be shipped to Berkely Recycling in Spring Lake, Iowa. This company will recycle the product at no cost. The total cost of the project is

estimated at \$443. Matthew will be approaching Home Depot and Dick's to help with expenses by sponsoring the project.

The Commission agreed that this is a worthy project.

**MOTION: To approve Matthew Emerson's Eagle Scout Project and allow him to move forward.**

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

d. 2020 Summer Program and Park Plan in response to COVID-19

Director Maltese stated that the Town has not made any official decisions regarding activities in the summer but the goal is to keep everyone safe. There have been no guidelines given which would be used to make an informed decisions. Director Maltese stated that meeting all the safety requirements would make running camp very difficult. Other Park and Rec departments have already canceled summer camp programs so the precedent has been set. The summer programs will take on a very different look but Director Maltese and her staff are determined to keep the community engaged and will make every effort to boost morale.

e. Park Director's Report

The staff of Parks and Rec have been working to think outside the box and create things to bring the community together. Aquatics Director Charette stated that she does a monthly calendar with different activities for each day. Every effort is being made engage people on Facebook. The Power Pack program continues with parents picking up the Power Packs each week. Director Maltese stated that there are too many "ifs" and therefore she is not sure what the fall programs will look like and what protective measures will need to be taken to conduct an afterschool program, Zumba, or Yoga. These will be phased as guidelines are issued.

**Abbe Road Soccer Complex/Pierce Memorial Park (Windsorville)/Prospect Hill Park (Warehouse Point)/Warehouse Point (Osborne Field) Park:**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Director Maltese expressed "Thank You" to Commissioner Taylor who works at Fresh River Nursing Home and is on the front lines.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Bills were approved.

**ADJOURMENT**

**MOTION: To AJOURN MEETING AT 7:12 pm**

**Taylor moved/Bagdikian second/Vote: In favor Unanimous**

Respectfully Submitted

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Alma Irene Mosher  
Recording Secretary