

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

MEETING  
November 9, ,2020

Subject to Commission Approval

The Meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairman Szymanski at 6:01 PM via Zoom.

**PRESENT:** Chairman Szymanski; Commissioners Bagdikian and Taylor; BOS Liaison DeSousa; Director Maltese, 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** from the meeting of September 14, 2020.

**MOTION: To APPROVE minutes of Meeting as written**

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

a. East Windsor Dog Park

The Park was closed for week due to heavy rain which washed away some improvements. It was very muddy which becomes both a liability and a matter of safety for both dogs and their owners which is of prime importance. The committee chairs are interested in turning responsibility for the Park back to Town. This would mean possibly contracting out services to care for the Park. Commissioner Szymanski asked if the town could at least do the mowing. The director stated that DPW already does the mowing and picks up the garbage. Director Maltese stated that she along with First Selectman Bowsza need to have conversation with the committee chairs to see how they want the transition to work.

**NEW BUSINESS**

a. Financial accounts review

There has been some small spending for events. The necessary electrical work at park for bandshell has been done while ground is still soft. There have been basic expenses for programming.

b. Park Directors report.

The bathrooms at Scout Hall on Abbe Road have been completed and have been opened for use. There is still some sidewalk work to finish. The pad for Picnic tables has been poured. Travel soccer will finish this weekend and the bathrooms will be winterized so they will be ready for spring.

The majority of work has been completed on the splash pad. The coloring of surface which will be blue and green will be done in the spring. Once completed in the spring, the company give us a formal tutorial on all the working parts. Plants have been put in which makes it look like an island oasis and the asphalt sidewalk was put in on Friday.

The construction of the bandshell is behind because there was a backlog on lumber. Contractor is supposed to put up the structure. Electrical work and the footings done.

Soccer fields in the back were well received and complete that part of the Park. Feed back from the travel soccer club positive and was a welcome change for them.

The new liner for the portable skating rink should arrive this week. DPW will then start installing. It will be necessary to put in some topsoil to level out some of the areas. Commissioner Szymanski questioned if the rink could not be put at East Windsor Park. Director Maltese explained that East Windsor Park will be locked during the winter but by the Annex is an open area, easily assessible at any time. The Warehouse Point Fire Department with filling of rink.

Commissioner Szymanski asked if the pine trees been removed from the Park. The director stated that this will be done during the winter.

Director Maltese stated that she and her staff are trying to offer programs and activities that will keep the community engaged during this time. The two scheduled after school programs were cancelled because the minimum enrollment was not met. There will be some Facebook live events in November. The "Santa Calls" will be done again this year and the Director is seeking more "Santa's" to handle to volume of request. Presently it takes two full days to complete all the calls. She also stated that she is looking into the possibility of doing an option to have a letter from Santa sent to the child. The calls will be made the second Tuesday in December. There was discussion among the Commissioners and the consensus was that giving the option of having a letter or call was a good one.

The Director stated that she plans to bring back Holiday lighting contest. She hopes to use it as a way to support the local business by giving gift cards to these business as prizes. coming back Support local businesses by giving gift cards to local

businesses as prizes. She would like to make map so families could have a night out to see the lights.

Director Maltese stated that she is looking into the possibility of having some sort of holiday parade. Since normally the parade ends at the Broad Brook Fire Department and people gather inside the fire house, this would present problems during the Pandemic. Director Maltese suggested possibly the parade could state at East Windsor Middle School and go past the Fire Department to Broad Brook Elementary School. People could easily social distance along that Route. Once at Broad Brook School they would just disperse. The Director will speaking with Chief Arcari to discover his feelings for moving forward.

The Director stated that she has purchased a giant inflatable snow globe that people can actually go inside. This could be set up for a photo op.

Director Maltese state that she and her staff are trying to keep people engage, hopeful and in good spirits.

Sr. Center – Snuggle a senior – possible letter Making photo books with hot chocolate packet.

The return letters will go out to staff as usual. The Department is going to move forward as if we will be able have regular programs in the spring/summer.

**Broad Brook Pond Park/ Pierce Memorial Park (Windsorville)/Prospect Hill Park (Warehouse Point)/Warehouse Point (Osborne Field) Park:**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Bills were approved by Commissioner Szymanski.

**ADJOURMENT**

**MOTION: To AJOURN MEETING AT 6:36 pm**

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

Respectfully Submitted

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Alma Irene Mosher  
Recording Secretary