

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

SPECIAL MEETING  
May 10,2021

Subject to Commission Approval

The Meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairman Szymanski at 7:04 PM in the Parks and Recreation office, Town Hall Annex, 25 School Street, East Windsor, CT.

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

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Simpkins; Board of Selectman liaison DeSousa

**ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM:**

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

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Michael Ceppetelli, 42 Skinner Road, Broad Brook, CT 06016

Of the questions presented to the board in the last meeting, none have been addressed. I feel that out of respect for those involved, that answers should be given.

Tonight I would like to first discuss Town Regulations. First Zoning Bd 504.5 Site Appearance requirements. The dumpster at East Windsor Park is in clear view for 10 years. I have never complained but now everyone can see it. The Zoning regulation states that it must be on a concrete pad and screened by trees & shrubs or fencing. Next: Were Wetland permits obtained for the tree removal within a regulated area. There should be no erosion on site and presently is not being controlled correctly. The Town cannot adhere to their own regulations. I believe a letter the Environmental Protection would be in order. There are rules on the sign at the front of the park but that are not followed. I don't know what "the park could be closed at any time" means. There are people in the park at night and this is a nuisance. Fifty percent of the people walking through the park have pets even though there is a no pets rule. The noise rule states no loud radios. There is to be no alcohol but now the agenda for tonight states are request for beer and wine to be available during the summer concerts. There is a new bandstand and with no buffer between the park and the houses – just what is a suitable level. There are people riding bikes at all hours and people in the pavilion setting off firecrackers at night. I am concerned about what is going to be done about these issues. Concerning the tree removal: the grading is still not complete. There is still debris along our property line and I saw a child trip and fall there. This is a liability for the town. Also there has not been a single tree planted to replace those that have been removed. The Four hundred thousand spent on the splash pad, which is not complete, could have been used to plant new trees. The town of Enfield is putting in a splash pad for one hundred sixty thousand dollars and it will be done in two weeks. I am

certainly going to research that. Actually, the land looks more like the town dump than the town park.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: To APPROVE minutes of March 8, 2021 Meeting as written**

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. Budget 2021-2022\*

**NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Financial accounts review

The Director stated that about 65% of the budge had been spent with 2 months to go. We are planning on a full opening of the parks with the lifting of the COVID restrictions

- b. Park Directors report.

The Director commented concerning the last part of Public Participation from the March meeting. To mitigate tree removal and additions might be added, the planting of trees and the creation of a walking path we planned. Since that meeting \$33,500 has been received to complete a master plan for all the Parks. An RFP is currently being created. A timetable will be established and put out the public in writing in the next week.

To address the issue of people felling they were not notified, any and all updates will go on our web site and face book page.

At the last meeting, \$250 was approved and set aside for the fishing derby that usually happens the first week in May. Because of COVID restrictions, the event was not held this year so the money will remain in the budget for next year.

The Director stated that the staff is getting ready to open East Windsor Park for the summer. The first rental, a baby shower, is June 5<sup>th</sup> and On June 12<sup>th</sup> the church group will be renting, and the park will be opening for the summer. Presently we have 2 rentals in June, 2 in July and 1 in August. The Broad Brook Fire Department will be using the Park for events both in August and September.

Mrs. Maltese stated that most summer positions have been filled but there are still openings for lifeguards. If the lifeguard staff is not full, there may have to be some adjustment in swimming hours.

The summer concert series will begin on June 10<sup>th</sup> and will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Summer concert series – June 10<sup>th</sup> on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays. The exception will be National Night Out which is Tuesday August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The Pavilions are currently being used for activities by multiple departments. The Senior Center is there on Monday for chair yoga and Wednesday for exercise. The Park and rec dance program is happening on Thursdays and Saturdays.

Splash pad: The showers mandated by the health department are currently being building installed. The temperature has to be consistently over 60 degrees to put in coloring, features and fencing. It is slated to be open by June 12<sup>th</sup>

The Healthy Kids running 58 participants which is double the participants from the full. This fun program happens on Sundays and gets kids outside and exercising

The department is resuming more in person activities starting May 17, i.e. Home Alone Safety, and Food Explorers. The start summer camp is June 28<sup>th</sup>. This will be 4 day a week program with a maximum number of 50 children. Camp will not be operating on Fridays unless it is rained out on other days.

Staff training in the next couple of weeks.

Mrs. Maltese stated that there will be no swim lessons this summer. Children cannot remove masks so it is not a safe option. Commissioner Szymanski asked if there were other locations we could refer people to for swim lessons? He also asked what shortened swim times would mean? The Director stated that we can refer families to other facilities for lessons. Shortened swim times may be just ending earlier during the week and having the full day on the weekends.

The Director stated that the town has applied for a Musco lighting grant for Abbe Road Soccer complex pending master plan.

A successful Arbor day event was held at Volunteer Park with 20 people in attendance. Bear LeVangie, an arborist for Eversource was the speaker. There were several positive comments and request to have Bear back again. Every person received a seedling to plant.

Last Monday the Dog Park reopened. The Director expressed thanks for the work DPW did to get the Dog Park ready.

The Director stated that her staff is gearing up to get things back to normal. She stated that she is thankful for staff that has been able to think outside the box to keeping people engaged during the last year..

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

**MOTION: To ACCEPT the Director's report as presented:**

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

- c. Request to get Board of Selectman approval for beer/wine at the summer concert series.

This will be the Town's first concert series. It has been requested by a number of people to BYOB just for the concert series. Current ordinance provides that it is not allowed unless there is signed permission from the board of selectman for the concert the series. Strickly BYOB. We are not selling anything. There may be a need for a Police officer to be there. The Board of Selectman would come up with policy and requirements.

**MOTION: To ACCEPT allow the Director's to approach the Board of Selectman regarding beer and wine at the summer concert series**

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

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Bills were approved by Commissioner Szymanski.

**ADJOURMENT**

**MOTION: To AJOURN MEETING AT 6:34 pm**

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

Respectfully Submitted

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Alma Irene Mosher  
Recording Secretary