

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

MEETING  
November 13, 2017

Subject to Commission Approval

The Meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chairman Szymanski at 6:03 PM in the Parks and Recreation office, 76 S. Main Street, East Windsor, CT

**PRESENT:** Chairman Symanski; Commissioners Bagdikian, and Simpkins; Director Maltese, A. Irene Mosher from the Park Office, Youth Sports League Representatives, and Joe Sauerhoefer, Public Works Maintenance of Facilities.

**ABSENT:** Liaison Selectman Pippin

**ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM:**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION: To APPROVE minutes of September 11, 2017 Meeting as written**

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. East Windsor Dog Park  
The Commission was given a comparison of Barktoberfest net income for the last three years. The net raised for 2017 was \$5,207.52. The current balance is \$19,385.58. Plans are being made for special projects such as possibly paving the parking area.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- a. East Windsor Soccer Club – Jeffrey Romel  
Mr. Romel reported that the soccer club had a good year and wished to thanks DPW for their hard work in preparing the fields for use. The major complaint of the year was that there was a problem with grubs at the East Windsor Middle School field. Director Maltese stated that there is not much that can be done since they cannot use any form of chemicals or insecticide on the school fields. Eric Demao will be getting volunteers to help clean up the equipment shed. They are also in hopes of putting up shelving/cabinets to better organize supplies. Mr. Romel also stated that

they are working on ways to attract more children to the sport. The suggestion was made that the Soccer board could set up and man a table at the Little League All star games, thus being able to interact with more parents of children involved in sports programs.

b. East Windsor Little League – Brian Feeney

This year Little League had 157 children enrolled plus 12 Junior boys. They are making an effort to attract more younger girls so that they do not have to have mixed gender teams. They are also finding that it is getting more difficult to get children involved in their programs. They are in process of installing lights for the batting cages but must go through the process of proving that the poles are structurally sound and installed properly. Once this is accomplished they can finish the installation of the LED lights. This year break away bases were installed. There are no projects currently planned for the coming year. They would like to have fields 2 and 6 at Osborn and the fields at Broad Brook School to be more frequently maintained.

c. Removal of East Windsor Park Gate – Joe Sauerhoefer

Mr. Sauerhoefer proposed that the gate at East Windsor Park be removed. He stated that is particularly a problem when there are rentals in the Pavilions since someone has to come and open up and then be there to close up at end of day. It is also a problem when a group would like to use the ball fields in the evening and the gates must be opened and closed for them. There have been instances of people being locked in the park when the gate has been locked.

There was a great deal of discussion concerning the wisdom in leaving the gate unlocked. Could it be locked for the winter so that cars could not come in and damage the parking lot and fields and then left unlocked during the summer when the park is busiest.

**MOTION: To APPROVE leaving the gate unlocked on a trial basis and reviewing the results at a later date.**

**Bakdikian moved/Simpkins second/VOTE: In favor: Unanimous**

d. Financial Accounts Review

Director Maltese stated that there has not been much change in fund balances since the last meeting. Because there is a spending freeze in place, only necessary program materials are being purchased.

The Director is working on the fiscal 2018 budget and plans to keep everything status quo.

**MOTION: To APPROVE the financial accounts review as presented.**

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

e. 2018 Meeting Dates

The Commissioners were given the list of meeting dates for 2018.

**MOTION: To APPROVE the list of 2018 meeting dates as presented.**

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

f. Park Directors report.

Director Maltese gave the Commissioners two graphs which defined 1) the three year comparison of number of pavilion rentals as well as income and 2) 2017 East Windsor Park Income which shows the percentage of income from gate fees, season passes, snack bar, swim lessons and pavilion rentals.

Corporate rentals of the pavilions are increasing and requests for 2018 dates have already been received.

This was the first year for swim lessons which brought in \$3800. It is expected that this amount will increase dramatically in the next year. Calls are already being received regarding the swim lessons for next summer.

The Director stated that the state has a cap on the number of Youth Services Bureaus it can support. If the cap is lifted, East Windsor could be able to establish a Youth Services Bureau and eventually explore the addition of a youth center and youth board.

The Power Pack Program is going strong with 30 children enrolled. Currently the program is only in Broad Brook Elementary but with the possibility of moving also the Middle School as the children transition for 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Food for the backpacks are purchased through Food Share and local vendors as well as receiving donations from the general public.

The Commissioners were given a copy of the Park and Rec Winter Program Happenings. The Director Highlighted the Annual Torchlight Parade and Carol Sing to be held December 16<sup>th</sup> starting at 5:30 pm. The Parade will step off from the Middle School at 5:30 pm and proceed to the Broad Brook Fire Department where there will be Kid's activities, refreshments will be served and raffle tickets will be sold. Another highlighted event is The North Pole Confection. Santa will once again be working with the Parks and Recreation Department to make phone calls to area children.

**MOTION: To ACCEPT the Director's report as presented:**  
**Simpkins moved/Bagdikian second/VOTE: In favor: Unanimous**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Bills were approved by Commissioner Simpkins

**ADJOURMENT**

**MOTION: To AJOURN MEETING AT 6:53 pm**  
**Simpkins moved/Bagdikian second/Vote: In favor Unanimous**

Respectfully Submitted

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Alma Irene Mosher  
Recording Secretary