

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING
January 19, 2016

Subject to Commission Approval

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

PRESENT: Chairman Szymanski; Commissioners Bagdikian, Leach and Simpkins; Director Maltese, Samantha Wilson and A. Irene Mosher from the Park Office.

ABSENT: Commissioner Cruz and Liaison Deputy First Selectman Pippin.

ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION: To APPROVE minutes of the November 14, 2016 Meeting as written
Lead moved/Bagdikian second/VOTE: In favor: Unanimous**

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. East Windsor Dog Park
No report.
- b. Resident/nonresident policy for East Windsor Park
Director Maltese that there is a need to show that we can get more revenue from EWP in order to obtain other improvements and amenities. The fact that there will be swim lessons again this year will bring more interested in the Park. Also with the number of pools in East Windsor, resident interest in the park has declined. She also stated that there can be controls as to the number of people allowed at one time, no buses, and requesting greater police presence. Commissioner Szymanski stated that all vehicles entering the park should have a standard vehicle plate – no buses or large vans.

MOTION: To allow nonresidents to use East Windsor Park on a trial basis for one year with state restrictions and reassess at the end of the season.

Bagdikian moved/Leach Second/VOTE: In favor: Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS

a. Little League Plans and requests

Brian Feeney, President of the East Windsor Little League, state that during the 2016 season, there were about 100 players. They were able to build the announce booth and plan to run power to it this season. The league had received grants to build batting cages. They will also be repairing the fence caps in the outfield and putting up a wind screen to the back of the field. He also asked about the possibility of having better lighting for the batting cages. Mr. Feeney asked if it would be possible to run a water spigot to the front of the building to use when necessary to water infield dry spots. Director Maltese stated that she would look into it.

b. Youth Soccer Plans and Requests

Mary Hevner, President of East Windsor Youth Soccer that the changes to the sizes of youth soccer fields will be in effect starting in the fall. Keith Tetro from Public Works stated that he has measured the field and it will not be difficult to bring them into compliance with the size requirements. The plan is to kick off Soccer registration starting in May with practice beginning in August.

c. Budget 2017-2018

Commission members were given a copy of the budget request for the fiscal year 2017-2018. Director Maltese stated that the biggest increase was mainly in salaries because of the state minimum wage being raised to \$10.10. She stated that the numbers are estimates because a lot depends on the kind of winter and the things that may need to be repaired in the spring. Director Maltese stated that we were given a supplemental appropriation to replace the basketball court at Pierce Park and one for sidewalks at the East Windsor Park Pavilion have been approved.

d. Aquatics

Samantha Wilson, Aquatics/Youth Program Supervisor, outlined her plans to reinstitute the aquatics program at East Windsor Park. She stated that there is much to be gained from sim lessons: 1) Provide East Windsor Residents with Swim Safety and Drowning Prevention 2) Teach proper etiquette for parents around water 3) supplement existing camp program bringing additional revenue 4) additional use of East Windsor Park with more foot traffic and non-Resident use of the facility. All swim instructors would be Red Cross Certified. There would be an addition to the schedule of Parent/Child & Preschool classes. Revenue Increase potential is from \$12,000 to \$14,000.

e. 2017 East Windsor Park usage fees

The Commissioners review and discussed the park usage fees. It was decided to keep the fees the same as the 2016 season for the coming year.

MOTION: To keep the fees the same for 2017 as they were in 2016 and review again at the end of the season.

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

f. Financial Accounts review

The Commissioners review the status of accounts. Director Maltese stated that the numbers will decrease quickly once she begins ordering supplies etc. the next season. Since she does not have available storage for big items like sand and mulch, it is not possible to order them until winter has passed.

g. Park Director's report

Director Maltese stated that the bathroom renovations at Osborn Field have begun. The ADA compliant walk way is in place. Work is currently being done on the drop down ceiling and the new water fountain. The basketball court at Pierce Park will be replaced. The walkway to and around the Pavilions at East Windsor Park will also be completed. There will also be work done on the gutters of the pavilions.

Joe Sauerhoffer is now in the DPW's new position of Operations Manager. He has been very helpful in getting Park and Rec projects completed.

There will be cameras going up in East Windsor Park which will be accessible to East Windsor Police.

The Board of Finance may be approached for an appropriation to fix the drainage issue at East Windsor Park. The dam engineer state that the present system may last one more year. DPW will be removing some trees from the perimeter for better access and topographical maps will be created. The price is to be determined

The Power Pack project food drive will be starting this week. East Windsor Hunger Coalition has received a grant from Walmart for \$1,500 and one from Food Share for \$3,300. They have also received a donation from the Supervisors Union for \$250. This year 50 children will be targeted with the hope of expanding the program in the years to come. March 1st is the target start date.00

The Community, Coffee and Conversation event has been rescheduled to February 1, 2017. The event is a combined effort of the Wellness Coalition and East Windsor Schools. Coats, snow pants, hats, gloves, and mittens will be collected for students in East Windsor.

Letters have gone out to all of last year staff to determine who will be returning this year. Director Maltese stated that the department is using social media to help get the word about programs and events. She also stated that she is working on getting a logo so the Parks and Recreation will have a definite brand.

Broad Brook Pond Park/Prospect Hill Park (Warehouse Point) No report

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

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

CORRESPONDENCE

None

MISCELLANEOUS

- a. Contribution to East Windsor Basketball

Director Maltese requested that the Commission approve a \$700 donation to East Windsor Basketball to be used for insurance and janitorial.

MOTION: To make a donation to East Windsor Youth Basketball in the amount of \$700

Bagdikian moved/Leach second/Vote: 3 In favor, 1 abstention

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Bills were approved by Commissioner Simpkins

ADJOURMENT

MOTION: To AJOURN MEETING AT 7:07 pm

moved/ second/Vote: In favor Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted

Alma Irene Mosher
Recording Secretary