

East Lyme Parks and Recreation
Regular Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2015

Present: Robert Pfanner
Charles Fenick
Jackie Curry
Milan Keser
William Willetts
Pat Larkin

FILED IN EAST LYME
CONNECTICUT
Nov 25 2015 AT 3:30 AM PM
William Willetts
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Absent: Roger Nadeau

Also Present: David Putnam, Director of East Lyme Parks and Recreation
John Hoye
Robert DeSanto, representing the East Lyme Public Trust

1. CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chairman Willetts called the East Lyme Parks and Recreation Regular Meeting of November 12, 2015 to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

Dr. DeSanto gave photos of the Niantic Bay Boardwalk Beach dated February 4, 2013 and Plan of Cini Park Parking Lot Improvements prepared by the East Lyme Public Works Department.

He was satisfied with the name Niantic Bay Boardwalk Beach.

The Foundation has interest in sponsoring a long-term study of the beach by surveying it seasonally and after storms to document how the sand is behaving.

Dr. DeSanto is working with Frank Bohlen who is advising the Foundation.

Chairman Pfanner arrived.

Mr. Larkin asked if the fence will be kept up? Mr. Pfanner felt it would be a good idea. Dr. DeSanto stated DEEP is interested in the studies of beaches.

MOTION: Jackie Curry moved to allow the Foundation to proceed with its site studies of plant life. Seconded by Charlie Fenick. (6-0) Unanimous.

Dr. DeSanto reported AMTRAK had to take environmental studies. Federal agencies are interested in the results we obtain. We would like to put in plantings to stabilize the beach. Mr. Keser volunteered to participate in the study.

Mr. Pfanner asked that an area is left for maintenance groomers to leave piles. Dr. DeSanto stated we would like to propose a small number of test sites. Mr. Pfanner asked how many test sites would you need? Dr. DeSanto replied three or four.

3. MINUTES

a.) Minutes of Regular Meeting of October 15, 2015. Chairman Pfanner asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the October 15, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Jackie Curry moved to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 15, 2015, as presented.
Seconded by Mr. Larkin. (6-0) Unanimous

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT (See attached report.)

5. EX-OFFICIO REPORT

Mr. Seery was unable to be present, and there was no report.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a.) Future Park Development. Mr. Pfanner stated he is working on it.
- b.) Boardwalk Construction Update. (See Director's Report).
- c.) ELPT - Name change recommendation "Niantic Bay Beach". (See delegations)

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a.) Band Shell Report.

Mr. Larkin reported the Band Shell/Amphitheater Committee met last week. He showed the Commission copies of what it will look like. The Commission reviewed proposals from M. E. O'Brien & Sons, Inc. Mr. Larkin stated there are not a lot of contractors that supply this type of structure.

Mr. Pfanner noted there are no stairs in the front. He was informed there are none. Its on a concrete slab.

Mr. Keser asked if the acoustics are good? He was informed it sounds good.

Mr. Larkin stated there will be three walls on it. It will face the sea. Mr. Putnam stated a site plan will be provided. This Commission would have final approval.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a.) Request from Hartford Marathon Foundation for use of only the lower lot at Hole in the Wall on 8/6/16 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. and use of McCook's Park on 8/7/16 from 4:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Fenick moved to approve the Hartford Marathon Foundation request for use of McCook Point Park Lower Parking Lot on August 6, 2016 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. and the entire Park on August 7 from 4:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The Foundation must allow access to the park for our beach attendees. Seconded by Mr. Keser. (6-0) Unanimous.

b.) Discussion on pavilion and tent fees for 2016 season. The Commission reviewed pavilion and tent fees for the 2016 season.

Mr. Larkin asked what is the cost to rent the tent in the evening? Mr. Putnam stated we have very few rentals past sunset. Mr. Larkin suggested not booking the pavilion in January.

Mr. Putnam stated the Bocce Court will need to be redone.

He informed the Commission the tent has been very popular. Mr. Pfanner felt it was because it is larger and located in a more favorable spot.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Larkin moved to adjourn the Parks and Recreation Regular Meeting of October 15, 2015 at 7:50 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Curry. (6-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary

Director's Report
November 12, 2015

McCook Point Park:

- Tent has been taken down and the top cleaned and prepped for next season. Structure and the top has held up well.
- Jingle Bell 5k RUN will be held on Saturday, December 12. Finishing and starting line will be the lower parking lot. Proceeds go towards the Brian Dagle Memorial Foundation.
- Band Shell/Amphitheater Committee recently met with a representative from M.E. O'Brien and Sons regarding cost and construction estimates.
- Restrooms have remained open we will be closing them in the next few weeks.
- We have added additional top soil and new grass seed to the upper area near the bathroom facility, it has come in well.
- I provided for discussion recommendations for fees for Pavilion and Tent rentals for the 2016 season. I will have recommendations for sticker and day pass fees for your December meeting.

Boardwalk Update:

- Maintenance staff did an outstanding job of blowing off sand and shells from the Boardwalk.
- Concrete cap is 90% complete
- Concrete sidewalk is 80% complete

- We are shooting to complete the concrete by Dec 1st
- We are shooting to open the Boardwalk by Dec 31st. (The installation of the waterside rail is the limiting factor on this - It is more time consuming than we thought)

- The stone dust walkway, loam and seed, site restoration, and parking lot expansion and repaving will all be done in the spring as soon as the weather breaks.

Athletic Facilities:

- Renovation work to Field #2 at Little League is complete we completely re-graded and re-sodded the infield and a portion of centerfield.
- We laser graded infields on fields 1 and 2 at Little League, both fields at Vets and the Men's Softball and Baseball field at Peretz Park.
- PeeWee Football will be hosting their Super Bowl this weekend.
- All field usage will be complete this weekend.
- Sod work for goal mouth and worn areas will be done next week, fields have held up well.

Miscellaneous:

- We have a maintainer II position open, we will post it internally the first of December and then out of the union if no one is qualified or applies in house.
- WEB TRAC registration system is almost ready to be launched we hoping for later this month.
- Holiday stroll and tree lighting on the Town Green is scheduled for Saturday, November 28th.
- Niantic Light parade is scheduled for Saturday, December 12th.