

East Lyme Parks and Recreation
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2016

Present: Robert Pfanner
Charles Fenick
Pat Larkin
Jackie Curry

FILED IN EAST LYME
CONNECTICUT
May 25 2016 AT 8:00 AM/PM
Kathleen Yalms, Clerk
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Absent: Roger Nadeau
Thomas Beebe
Milan Keser

Also Present: David Putnam, Director of East Lyme Parks and Recreation
Kevin Seery, Ex officio
William Willetts, Emeritus
First Selectman Mark Nickerson
Joanne Moore
Patricia Chaffee
Ann Dagle
Frank Balantic
Rev. John Nelson
Lee Ireland

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pfanner called the East Lyme Parks and Recreation Regular Meeting of May 12, 2016 to order at 7:07 p.m.

2. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

a.) Joanne Moore, Labyrinth request for McCooks. Mr. Putnam stated he was contacted by Ms. Moore about placing a temporary Labyrinth at McCooks Point Beach.

Ms. Moore showed photos of it. She would now like to have a permanent Labyrinth at the beach. She presented a proposal to Commission members. She is a physical therapist and is interested in the health of citizens of East Lyme. The Labyrinth is a way of meditating and walking at the same time. Labyrinths are found in the floors of cathedrals in Europe.

Mr. Putnam showed on a map areas that may be considered. He felt if flat stones were used, it could be mowed over it.

Commission member Jackie Curry arrived.

Mr. Pfanner felt the Commission needs more time to consider it and determine the cost of it. This Commission plans to meet at McCooks in June.

Ms. Ireland wanted Mr. Putnam and the Commission to know she loves the Boardwalk. She also stated she has seen a Labyrinth in brick.

Mr. Balantic thanked all Commission members for their service.

3. MINUTES

a.) Minutes of Regular Meeting of April 14, 2016. Mr. Pfanner asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the April 14, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Jackie Curry moved to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2016, as presented. Seconded by Mr. Larkin. Mr. Pfanner abstained from voting. (3-0-1) Motion carried.

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

MOTION: Ms. Curry moved to approve the opening of McCook Point Park to the public on May 28, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Fenick. (4-0) Unanimous.

5. EX-OFFICIO REPORT

Mr. Seery reported the Referendum on the budget will be held on May 19 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Community Center.

Mr. Nickerson informed the Commission, because of reduced funding by the state, the Town budget had to be reduced. The Town is in good financial shape.

He stated on Monday May 16 there will be a presentation "I am Dirt" in the High School auditorium. Heroin has become a big problem. In one weekend five individuals in East Lyme were saved with Narcon. One life was lost.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications received.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a.) Future Park Development. There was no discussion on this matter.

b.) Boardwalk Construction Update. There was no further discussion on this matter.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a.) Band Shell Report. Mr. Larkin reported the Band Shell Committee plans to meet next week.

b.) Seasonal Hiring Committee. Messrs. Fenick and Nadeau and Ms. Curry will meet to discuss seasonal hiring.

9. NEW BUSINES

a.) Service to Youth Award. Mr. Putnam gave four recommendations to the Committee.

Mr. Larkin asked for an update on UCONN putting in plots of beach grass. Mr. Putnam replied the west end of the beach has not been done.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Fenick moved to adjourn the Parks and Recreation Regular Meeting of May 12, 2016 at 7:50 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Larkin.
(4-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary

Director's Report
May 12, 2016

McCook Point Park:

- Gate Attendants to start on Saturday, May 28th – would like to make the first day open to the public as it is the opening dedication for the Boardwalk. (need Commission approval).
- Number of beach passes sold to date is 626 a little ahead of last year.
- Touch-A-Truck is scheduled for Saturday, May 21st
- Niantic Bay 10K scheduled for Friday, June 10th
- Boardwalk 5K sponsored by Niantic Main Street and we had 903 participants, feedback has been very positive.
- All restroom facilities have been opened for the season, Hole in Wall restroom has been very busy with the opening of the entire Boardwalk.

Boardwalk Construction Update:

- Upper parking lot paving was completed this week, look to open on Monday.
- Upper field will be sodded middle to late next week.
- Areas around the Pavilion will be hydro-seeded next week as well.
- Bocce Court has been renovated
- Grass areas surrounding access road is coming in nicely.
- By the end of next week we will have all the benches on the Boardwalk 200 in total.

Athletic Facilities:

- Little League opening day was held on April 30th, the department was recognized with the first pitch recognition.
- Roofs on the dugouts at Bridebrook are scheduled to begin just after Memorial Day Weekend.
- Fields are in great shape maintenance crew continues to do an outstanding job.
- Men's Softball program has nine teams they begin play on Monday, May 16.
- Relationship with UCONN and Cornell University is continuing we just overseeded with seed provided for the study at PeeWee Football and MS Soccer.

Miscellaneous:

- CT Trails Day Hike is scheduled for Saturday, June 4th we are partnering again with the Friends of Oswegatchie Hills. Hike starts at 10 a.m. and will start at Vets.
- Please see nominations for the Service to Youth Award.