

East Lyme Parks and Recreation
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2016

Present: Roger Nadeau
Jackie Curry
Charles Fenick
Thomas Beebe
Pat Larkin

FILED

OCT 19 2016 AT 12:20 AM (PM)
Kenneth G. Allen, Jr.
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Absent: Robert Pfanner
Milan Keser

Also Present: David Putnam, Director of East Lyme Parks and Recreation
Kevin Seery, Ex officio
William Willetts, Emeritus

1. CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chairman Nadeau called the East Lyme Parks and Recreation Regular Meeting of October 13, 2016 to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

There were no guests.

3. MINUTES

a.) Minutes of Regular Meeting of September 8, 2016. Mr. Nadeau asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the September 8, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Ms. Curry moved to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 8, 2016, as presented.
Seconded by Mr. Fenick. (5-0)

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

Mr. Putnam informed the Commission the Dog Park Committee would like to use the left side of Veteran's Field for a Dog Park. They would have restrooms and parking. They are funding for it. They will not use it during games. There was a general consensus of the Commission that this was a good location for a Dog Park.

Mr. Putnam distributed flyers for a program on the Chris Herren Story, a basketball legend from Fall River, Massachusetts, to be held on October 18 at 7 p.m. at East Lyme High School.

The Bike & Barbeque held on Saturday October 1 had 180 individuals pre-registered and 19 came on October 1. Although the weather was not pleasant, everyone who attended had a good time.

Consideration is being given about moving it to the Smith-Harris barn with parking at the Community Center.

5. EX-OFFICIO REPORT

Mr. Seery reported the Board of Selectmen will have a Public Hearing on October 19 at 7 p.m. on whether the Town should continue with the Resident State Trooper Program or become an Independent Police Department. If there is interest the Board of Selectmen will vote on an ordinance to establish a Police Commission who would hire a Police Chief. It is becoming very expensive to continue with a Resident State Trooper. Mr. Larkin asked will he need an Assistant? It is felt that the current building is adequate. We have 22 officers and Stonington has 34. There will be a line item for a part-time clerk in the budget. It will have to be determined where our prisoners will be kept. We are eligible for state grants.

We have a grant for \$200,000 to do an environmental study of the gas station across from the Morton House. Whatever remains of this grant can be used for remediation. A small park is on the plan. We will gain 12 parking spots.

The school system will make a presentation on the plan for elementary schools within two months.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no new communications received.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a.) Future Park Development. The Commission is waiting for a report on the school project funding.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a.) Preliminary Beach Report. See Director's Report.

b.) Facilities Request Form from Bright Music Festival to reserve the pavilion on June 4, 2017 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Mr. Putnam reported they have used the park for this event in the past, and he had no problems with them. This is a non-profit group.

MOTION: Mr. Fenick moved to approve the Bright Music Festival to reserve the pavilion at McCook Point Park on June 4, 2017 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Curry.

(5-0) Unanimous.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Beebe moved to adjourn the Parks and Recreation Regular Meeting of October 13, 2016 at 7:40 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Larkin.
(5-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary

**Director's Report
October 13, 2016**

McCook Point Park:

- Summer attendance at the 3 beaches for 2016
 - 44,647 vehicles
 - 23,461 walk ins
 - 141,179 total number of visitors
 - Three highest attendance days were:
 - July 3rd 3,813
 - July 4th 3,735
 - July 16th 3,530 (Celebrate East Lyme)
- All swim buoys and the swim raft have been taken in for the year. Restrooms remain open as long as weather permits.
- Jeffrey's Rainbow run was conducted on Friday, September 16, we had close to 300 entrants. A bench was donated to the Bourgeois family in recognition of the fifth anniversary of the race.
- Last tent rental of the season is scheduled for October 15.
- Friday night movies in the park held in September continue to be very popular.
- We slice seeded and aerated the new grass areas where the Boardwalk construction equipment was stored.

Athletic Facilities:

- Just completed deep tine aeration of the athletic fields at Peretz Park.
- Youth Football has responded nicely we have slice seeded twice and aerated.
- War at the Shore completed the 13th tournament this year on October 1 and 2, everything ran smoothly this year.
- Maintainers continue to do an outstanding job of taking care of the fields, they are in great shape for this far along in the season.
- Possible location for a Dog Park is the upper field area adjacent to the Baseball Field at Veterans Memorial Park.
- All irrigation pumps are now up and running.

Miscellaneous:

- East Lyme Youth Coalition will be sponsoring a presentation by former Boston Celtic Chris Herren regarding his struggles with alcohol and heroin on Tuesday, October 18th at ELHS starting at 7 p.m.
- We will be sponsoring the Alcohol and Drug Free Graduation Party for the fourth straight year, they meet monthly. The committee is comprised of parent volunteers.