

East Lyme Parks and Recreation  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
March 9, 2017

Present: Robert Pfanner  
Milan Keser  
Charles Fenick  
Jackie Curry  
Pat Larkin  
Thomas Beebe

FILED

Mar 15 20 17 AT 3:30 AM/PM  
*(C. Fenick)*  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Absent: Roger Nadeau

Also Present: David Putnam, Director of East Lyme Parks and Recreation  
Deb Moshier-Dunn  
Mike Dunn  
Bill Yalen  
Bill Willetts, Emeritus

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pfanner called the East Lyme Parks and Recreation Regular Meeting of March 9, 2017 to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

Mr. Putnam asked for nominations for Chairman of the East Lyme Parks and Recreation Commission for 2017.

MOTION: Mr. Fenick moved to nominate Mr. Pfanner as Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission for 2017. Seconded by Mr. Keser. (6-0) Unanimous.

There were no other nominations for Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission for 2017.

A vote was taken and Mr. Pfanner was unanimously elected Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission for 2017.

Mr. Putnam asked for nominations for Vice Chairman of the East Lyme Parks and Recreation Commission for 2017.

MOTION: Mr. Keser moved to nominate Mr. Nadeau as Vice Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission for 2017. Seconded by Ms. Curry. (6-0) Unanimous.

There were no other nominations for Vice Chairman of the East Lyme Parks and Recreation Commission for 2017.

A vote was taken and Mr. Nadeau was unanimously elected Vice Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission for 2017.

Mr. Putnam asked for nominations for Treasurer of the East Lyme Parks and Recreation Commission for 2017.

MOTION: Ms. Curry moved to nominate Mr. Keser as Treasurer of the East Lyme Parks and Recreation Commission for 2017. Seconded by Mr. Beebe. (6-0)

There were no other nominations for Treasurer of the East Lyme Parks and Recreation Commission for 2017.

A vote was taken and Mr. Keser was unanimously elected Treasurer of the East Lyme Parks and Recreation Commission for 2017.

## 2. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

Ms. Moshier-Dunn stated she spoke with First Selectman Mark Nickerson regarding a March for Science on April 22, 2017 (Earth Day) starting at 11 a.m. at McCook's Beach, continuing to the Boardwalk and ending up at Cini Park to teach about different types of science. Ms. Moshier-Dunn spoke to Holly Cheeseman about the Children's Museum. She also spoke to the High School. She plans to have discussions with the Aquarium. They plan to sell tee shirts in order to pay for a bus from McCook's. They would like to have individuals with wheelchairs and strollers be able to participate.

Ms. Curry asked how many individuals will participate? Ms. Moshier-Dunn replied (only by word of mouth) she is aware of 100 people who would like to participate. They will hire two policemen and pay for them.

Mr. Putnam stated that Mr. Nickerson is not in favor of using the Boardwalk for so many participants. Mr. Larkin asked how long will the walk take? Mr. Keser stated he supported it and felt Earth Day is very popular worldwide. He is willing to help get speakers. Mr. Larkin asked if this was a free event and was informed it is. Mr. Putnam felt policies for the Boardwalk will need to be developed.

Mr. Dunn stated as an engineer he felt science is a good thing. As a resident he felt we have tremendous resources. His wife created the Niantic River Regatta. Other towns could participate. Pfizer would like to participate. Mr. Pfanner felt it was a good idea.

MOTION: Mr. Keser moved to approve March for Science to be held at McCook's Beach on April 22, 2017 beginning at 11 a.m., providing it is coordinated with Mr. Putnam. Seconded by Mr. Larkin.

(6-0) Unanimous.

### 3. MINUTES

a.) Minutes of Regular Meeting of January 17, 2017. Mr. Pfanner asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the January 17, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Ms. Curry moved to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 17, 2017, as presented. Seconded by Mr. Beebe. Mr. Fenick abstained from voting. (5-0-1) Motion carried.

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

Mr. Keser asked that this Commission receive a monthly financial report.

The Commission was given copies of the Vendor Proposal for food and refreshments at Cini Park and the Niantic Bay Boardwalk. It was felt the size of the cart should be included.

MOTION: Ms. Curry moved to approve the draft Vendor Proposal for food and refreshments at Cini Park and the Niantic Bay Boardwalk with additions made. Seconded by Mr. Larkin. (6-0) Unanimous.

Mr. Putnam stated our policy is that at no time are dogs permitted on the Boardwalk. Mr. Nickerson has received a petition requesting that dogs be allowed on the Boardwalk. This Commission recommends that an ordinance be drafted regarding this matter. Mr. Willetts agreed to review it.

MOTION: Ms. Curry moved to have Mr. Putnam develop an ordinance to be presented to the Board of Selectmen regarding dogs on the Boardwalk. Seconded by Mr. Fenick. (6-0) Unanimous

### 5. EX-OFFICIO REPORT

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

### 6. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter dated February 11, 2017 from Carol Kruse regarding the spread of personal memorabilia on the Boardwalk. The Commission reviewed photos of personal memorabilia on the Boardwalk. It was felt no personal memorabilia should be allowed on the Boardwalk or it will be removed.

### 7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a.) Future Park Development. Future park development is in the Capital Improvement Plan for 2020-2021.

b.) Budget 2017-2018. Mr. Putnam informed the Commission that the Board of Selectmen approved the Parks and Recreation Commission budget with no changes. The Board of Finance will review it on March 29 at 6:30 p.m.

## 8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

## 9. NEW BUSINES

Mr. Larkin stated a Dog Park has been approved at Veterans Park. Individuals will have to park at the Baseball Field. He recommended that it be placed on the open land at Romagna Drive. Mr. Seery is Chairman of the Dog Park Committee.

Mr. Pfanner asked for an update on bathrooms at Cini Park. Mr. Putnam stated that STEAP funds cannot be used for a mobile restroom facility. He felt we can have a mobile bathroom facility. Fresh water will need to be brought to the site. There is a cost to rent the trailer. Portapotties cost \$6,000. Mr. Pfanner suggested a 500 gallon tank.

Mr. Larkin felt the parks in town look fantastic.

## 10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Keser moved to adjourn the Parks and Recreation Regular Meeting of March 9, 2017 at 8:10 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Beebe. (6-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary

**Director's Report**  
**March 9, 2017**

**McCook Point Park:**

- Beach passes will go on sale starting Monday, April 3.
- Returning summer staff contracts have been sent out due back to the office by mid-April.
- Deadline for Band Shell construction was March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Lussier Development Corporation will be awarded the job. Lussier Development has done excellent work to our Pavilions and Dug out roofs at Peretz Park. Anticipate construction to start in April with a May finish date. We have been scheduling bands for Friday night concerts starting July 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Discussion on an Enterprise Fund for McCook continued at my budget review meeting with the Board of Selectman. They have asked me to track the true cost of running the beaches for this upcoming season for a possible implementation of the spring of 2018.
- I have provided a draft proposal for vending on the Boardwalk and in Cini Park for your review and recommendations.
- The Niantic Bay Boardwalk 5K is scheduled for Sunday, April 23 starting at 10:00 a.m.
- Vendor package for McCook and Hole in Wall will be advertised in the New London Day next weekend.

**Athletic Facilities:**

- I anticipate an opening of our athletic fields on Saturday, April 1 (weather dependent).
- Schedules have started to filter in.
- Maintenance Crew is almost complete with servicing all of our equipment they have done an excellent job this winter.

**Boardwalk:**

- Discussion regarding the Parks and Recreation Policy of no dogs allowed on the Boardwalk.
- Discussion on decorations being left on the fence, benches and railings.

**Budget:**

- The Board of Selectman approved our budget with no adjustments and have forwarded onto the Board of Finance.
- Our review with the Board of Finance is scheduled for Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

**Miscellaneous:**

- Spring issue of Events magazine was distributed last week.
- RECTRAC upgrades have been completed it has been a relatively easy change for our staff they have done an excellent job.

