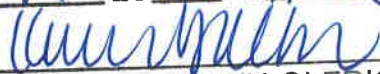


East Lyme Parks and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 8, 2020

Present: Robert Pfanner
Roger Nadeau
Jackie Curry
Sue Kumro
Todd Donovan
Thomas Beebe
Pat Larkin

FILED

Oct 14 20 20 AT 11:10 AM/PM

EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Also Present: Kevin Seery, Ex officio member of the Board of Selectmen
David Putnam, Director of Parks and Recreation

Chairman Pfanner called the October 8, 2020 meeting to order at 7 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

PUBLIC DELEGATIONS. There were no public delegations.

MINUTES. Mr. Pfanner asked for corrections, deletions or additions to the August 13, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes.

The following corrections were noted: Ms. Kumro's name was misspelled on page 2, the second motion, in the last sentence of Communications item c and the last sentence of page 2.

MOTION (1): Ms. Curry moved to approve the August 13, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes, as amended. Seconded by Mr. Beebe. Mr. Pfanner and Mr. Larkin abstained from voting. (5-0-2) Motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT. (See attached Report).

MOTION (2): Mr. Larkin moved to allow the Public Trust to sell no more than twenty benches to be used at Peretz Park, and that it be coordinated with of Director of Parks and Recreation. Seconded by Mr. Donovan. (7-0) Unanimous.

MOTION (3): Ms. Kumro moved to have Mr. Putnam prepare a plan for recreational activities at Darrow Pond to be reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Commission and brought to the Board of Selectmen. Seconded by Ms. Curry. (7-0) Unanimous.

EX OFFICIO'S REPORT Mr. Seery reported the Referendum on the Public Safety Building was approved and the First Selectman was authorized to contact NOBEL to complete the project.

Mr. Seery informed the Commission that the Board of Selectmen discussed the COVID-19 pandemic and that New London was declared a medical emergency. He added cases have also increased in East Lyme.

Mr. Seery informed the Commission that Smarty's Restaurant has closed.

He reported that Ledge Light will have a free drive through flu clinic.

He stated construction will begin next spring on the Starlight Motel, on redoing the bridge and on Rt. 161.

He asked that everyone see the Town Clerk if absolutely necessary since they are receiving 600-700 ballots per day.

COMMUNICATIONS. Mr. Putman was asked to send an email to the user groups of East Lyme's facilities to adhere to the guidelines of the State of Connecticut for the Covid-19 pandemic.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

- a.) McCook Point Park Update -Seasonal Beach Sales. (See Director's Report)
- b.) COVID-19 Updates. (See Ex-officio Report)

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

- a.) Charlie Fenick Recognition Committee. Mr. Nadeau asked the Commission to review his report on the accomplishments of Charlie Fenick. It was suggested that an athletic facility be named after Mr. Fenick.

Mr. Nadeau and Mr. Pfanner will meet and bring a recommendation to this Commission at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Mr. Seery suggested if Veterans Field is being considered that Mr. Putnam reach out to the VFW and American Legion prior to considering Veterans Field.

NEW BUSINESS There was no discussion of new business.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION (4): Mr. Beebe moved to adjourn the East Lyme Parks and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting of October 8, 2020 at 8 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Larkin. (7-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary

Director's Report
October 8, 2020

McCook Point Park/Beaches:

- I have kept on a skeleton crew to clean restrooms daily, I hope to keep them on until the first of November.
- Swim buoys and lines have been taken in for the winter.
- I will be submitting a preliminary Capital Plan for McCook expenditures for our November meeting (buoy replacements, picnic tables, grills, etc.).
- Events at McCook include:
 - CRPA fall quarterly was held today in the pavilion 70 attendees.
 - Out of the Darkness Suicide Awareness Walk on Oct. 17 virtually
 - Niantic Bay Boardwalk 5K on Oct. 25 virtually
 - Jingle Bell Run on Dec. 12th in person and virtually
 - Niantic Light Parade – reverse parade with floats being staged in the park with attendees remaining in their vehicles while viewing the floats.

Athletic Facilities:

- The High School has postponed all sporting events for the next 14 days due a few positive COVID test of students.
- Youth Soccer Program canceled activities last weekend and has resumed play, LL Softball is in a pause with one potential exposure and LL Baseball is continuing their fall schedule. Youth Football has moved to flag football for this season.
- The East Lyme Public Trust Foundation would sell benches for use at Peretz Park as a fundraiser with monies coming back to the department. The program will be very similar to Boardwalk Benches.
- Later this fall we will continue with fencing upgrades to the Softball Field at Veterans Memorial Park as part of our Capital Improvement Program.

Programs:

- We are offering a limited amount of adult exercise classes with limited capacities. At this we are not offering any youth programming.

Miscellaneous:

- In the upcoming Plan of Conservation and Development it references improvements to park areas north of I-95 (Darrow Pond), I would like to start a friend's group for the development of this as a recreational area.

Miracle League Field:

- A small ribbon cutting ceremony was conducted on Sunday, September 13 to recognize our Grand Slam sponsors (\$20,000 +)
- Programming on the Miracle League Field includes dance and soccer programs that meet on Saturday and Sunday mornings.