

East Lyme Parks Recreation Commission
September 14, 2023
Regular Meeting Minutes

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EAST LYME, CT

2023 OCT 10 A 11: 08

Carol Hill
TOWN CLERK

Present: Thomas Beebe, Chairman
Pat Larkin
Sue Kumro
Rob Tukey

Absent: Jackie Curry
Todd Donovan

Also Present: Jerry Lokken, Director of Parks and Recreation
Dan Cunningham, Ex-officio
Jan Larson

The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

1. CALL TO ORDER Chairman Beebe called the September 14, 2023 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS. Ms. Larson reported she has lived in town for 55 years and likes meeting with commissions. She is interested in discussions on a Dog Park and beach pass discounts.

3. MINUTES

a) Minutes of August 10, 2023 Meeting. The meeting minutes of August 10 was tabled until more members that were at that meeting are present.

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT. Mr. Lokken reported that a full-time maintainer submitted a letter of resignation. He added we have seasonal staff that may be able to fill in. Our maintainers and Park Forman are new. The starting hourly wage for maintainers is about \$21 per hour.

Ms. Kumro asked about Pickleball. Mr. Lokken replied we have a cooperative purchasing agreement we can use. He added we are working on disposing of excess fill at Bridebrook. When Public Works is able to take care of that we are able to proceed. It will cost \$275,000 for the four courts. He expects this project to be completed by spring. He stated we have reserved times for Pickleball clinics and play on the existing courts at Bridebrook. Any other time it will be first come, first serve.

5. EX OFFICIO'S REPORT Mr. Cunningham reported there will be questions on the November 7 municipal ballot. The Board of Selectmen will have a Special Meeting on electrical chargers.

The Board of Selectmen authorized the First Selection to enter into a contract to purchase the Hathaway, Oswegatchie Hills and Brainard Road properties presently owned by the East Lyme Land Trust.

Mr. Cunningham reported the Board of Selectmen will discuss whether or not there is a problem with the roof of the Seebeck Pavilion.

6. COMMUNICATIONS. There were no new communications.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a) Youth Service Commission Reorganization. Mr. Lokken reported this item is on the Board of Selectmen's Agenda.

b) Hole-in-the-Wall Restroom Project. Mr. Lokken informed the Commission a heating unit has been installed in the Hole-in-the-Wall restrooms. Since we couldn't increase the number of toilets, we chose to expand the length of time the restrooms can remain open. Since we will not use the balance of the approved ARPA funding, about \$180,000 will be returned. We will inform the Board of Selectmen we do not need this money for the restroom project and offer suggestions on how it can be used.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Darrow Pond (Todd) A presentation will be given to the Board of Selectmen on October 4.

b) Dog Park (Rob). Mr. Lokken met with Jay Ginsburg regarding setting up a meeting with Ms. Palumbo, Mr. Tukey and Dr. Ginsburg.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a) Budget Priorities. Mr. Lokken distributed a list of potential items to consider. The budget will be forwarded to the Board of Selectmen by the end of the year.

Parks and Recreation received \$700 in donations at the summer concerts.

Ms. Kuvalanka has found it necessary to resign from this Commission. Mr. Beebe and Mr. Larkin reported they will not seek re-election as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of this Commission.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION (1): Ms. Tukey moved to adjourn the September 14, 2023 Parks and Recreation Regular Meeting at 8:00 p.m. Seconded by Ms. Kumro. (4-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary