



TOWN OF LEDYARD

Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes - Draft Minutes

12 Van Tassel Drive
Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06339

Chairman
Kenneth DiRico

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, March 21, 2023

7:00 PM

**Parks & Recreation/Senior Citizens
Center**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Vice Chair, Shaileen English at 7:09 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present Commissioner Lucrezia Finegan
Commissioner Jessica Cobb
Commissioner Loretta Kent
Commissioner Shaileen C. English
Commissioner Jessica Buhle
Commissioner Charles Gallagher

Excused Commissioner Thomas Olsen
Chairman Kenneth J. DiRico
Commissioner Deondre Bransford

Additional attendees:

Scott Johnson, Parks & Recreation Director
Gary Paul, Town Council Liaison
Brian Love, Resident

III. RESIDENTS & PROPERTY OWNERS COMMENTS

Ledyard Little League (Brian Love) asked when fields will be open and if there are any planned projects that will prevent field play. Fields are planned to be ready April 1. Fertilizing will be planned around the weather, as rain is required. Normal field maintenance is planned and will require 48 hours of field rest after. League asks for notification so they can plan when to play. There are over 300 registered for Little League this year.

IV. PRESENTATIONS / INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Action Letter 02-22-2023

Public hearing is scheduled for April 12th at 6:30pm regarding the combination of the Parks & Recreation and Senior Commissions. The hearing is open to the public.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

V. MEMBER COMMENTS

Chad asked about timing for turning the water back on at Crandall Field. Overnight temperatures need to be above freezing and multiple parties need to be coordinated. Scott will coordinate and inform Football. Goalposts will be removed in advance of the season. Concession stand improvements for Crandall and other capital improvements reviewed.

Jessica Buhle: The Regatta Festival is scheduled for June 10, from 11am-3pm, for the Harvard Yale Regatta. Regatta starts at 2:15pm. Request for Parks & Recreation to rent a handicap portable toilet, to be funded by the Festival.

VI. REPORTS

1. March 2023 Director's Report

Report presented verbally. Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for Saturday 4/8. Lions will provide the Easter Bunny and the Lion, and volunteers have been recruited.

Motion to approve the March 2023 Director's Report

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Lucrezia Finegan

SECONDER: Loretta Kent

AYE 6 Finegan Cobb Kent English Buhle Gallagher

EXCUSED 3 Olsen DiRico Bransford

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to approve the Parks and Recreation regular meeting minutes of 02-21-2023

RESULT: APPROVED AS AMENDED

MOVER: Jessica Cobb

SECONDER: Jessica Buhle

AYE 6 Finegan Cobb Kent English Buhle Gallagher

EXCUSED 3 Olsen DiRico Bransford

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Boy Scout Skate Park Project Proposal

The scout has begun fundraising and has asked for guidance on where to collect the funds. Scott let him know the department cannot hold any funds for him.

RESULT: CONTINUE

2. Pollinator Garden Discussion

No updates

RESULT: CONTINUE

3. Public Hearing for an Ordinance combining Parks & Rec and Senior Commissions scheduled for April 12th at 6:30 p.m.

Public Hearing for Ordinance combining Parks & Recreation and Senior Commissions - scheduled for 4/12.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

Any Old Business proper to come before the Commission

None

XI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion and possible motion to spend up to \$2,000.00 from the Parks and Recreation Capital Account to assist Ledyard Little League with the installation of a new scoreboard at Pfizer Field.

Discussion: \$2000.00 is solely to cover the installation of the power. Little League will be responsible for the electric bill. Funds are available and will not negatively impact the department.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Shaileen C. English

SECONDER: Loretta Kent

AYE 6 Finegan Cobb Kent English Buhle Gallagher

EXCUSED 3 Olsen DiRico Bransford

2. Discussion regarding recreation space within subdivisions

A letter was sent to the Commissioners written by Jessica Cobb regarding the plan for active recreation space within subdivision, and who takes ownership of the deeded land. The question for the Commission is to determine the costs to the Town/Department for maintenance of different types and uses of this type of land. The need for indoor recreation facilities was also brought up. The suggestion was made to hire an outside entity to perform a needs assessment of the open space. The role of the Commission at this point is to develop estimates for maintaining different types and uses of open space.

RESULT: CONTINUE

X. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Jessica Buhle moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Mr. Charles Gallagher

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

VOTE: 6-0 Approved and so declared

Respectively Submitted,

Vice Chairman English
Parks & Recreation Commission