



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

## Parks & Recreation Commission

### Meeting Minutes - Draft Minutes

12 Van Tassel Drive  
Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06339

Chairman  
Kenneth DiRico

#### Regular Meeting

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Tuesday, March 21, 2023

7:00 PM

Parks & Recreation/Senior Citizens  
Center

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#### 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 and 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 differences 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,

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Vice Chairman English  
Parks & Recreation Commission