



TOWN OF LEDYARD

Parks, Recreation & Senior Citizens Commission

Meeting Minutes - Draft Minutes

12 Van Tassel Drive
Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06339

Chairman
Kenneth J. DiRico

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

7:00 PM

Parks & Recreation/Senior Citizens
Center

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Present Commissioner Jessica Cobb
Commissioner Norma Sokolski
Commissioner Margaret Anne Harding
Commissioner Lucrezia Finegan
Alternate Member Carol Ann Schneider

Excused Commissioner Loretta Kent
Chairman Kenneth J. DiRico
Commissioner Paula Crocker

In addition, the following were present:

Scott Johnson, Director of Parks Recreation and Senior Center
Gary Paul, Town Council Liason

III. RESIDENTS & PROPERTY OWNERS COMMENTS

None

IV. PRESENTATIONS / INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

None

V. MEMBER COMMENTS

None

VI. REPORTS

1. Director's Report

Ms. Schneider suggested that we do a contest at the Senior Prom. Ms. Cobb suggested that we could do raffles. Mr. Johnson said he would look into these ideas.

Ms. Cobb asked when the Senior Center will hear back about the ARPA Fund approval, Mr. Johnson stated that he was worried as it has been 2/3 weeks and they are yet to hear back.

Mackie Asked about ECTC's Dial-A-Ride program as she was unaware of the ages this was for. Mr. Johnson stated that this program was for anyone 55 years of age and older.

Mr. Johnson mentioned that he had met with a Boy Scout who would like to take care of, and fix the bridges at Sawmill Park.

MOTION to accept the Director's Report

MOVER: Jessica Cobb

SECONDER: Carol Ann Schneider

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MOTION to approve the April 16th Meeting Minutes

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Lucrezia Finegan

SECONDER: Carol Ann Schneider

AYE 5 Cobb Sokolski Harding Finegan Schneider

EXCUSED 3 Kent DiRico Crocker

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Boy Scout Skate Park Project Proposal

Mr. Johnson stated that this Boy Scout had emailed in regards to the Skate Park project, talking about how he would like to change plans as this was too large. Mr. Johnson had said he suggested building garden beds at the Senior Center.

Ms. Harding asked about the gravel currently in there. Mr. Johnson said he would speak to public works about removing this.

Ms. Schneider suggested raised beds for the garden to make it more accessible. Mr. Johnson stated that raised beds may interfere with Public Works mowing and such.

MOTION to deny the Boy Scout Proposal

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Margaret Anne Harding

SECONDER: Norma Sokolski

2. MOTION to approve Electrical Sign to be put up at the Ledyard Town Green

Ms. Cobb asked about the content of the sign. She had stated that in the sign at the Fire Department that was recently put up, she has only seen BINGO advertisements. She feels that there is more prominent information that could be advertised. Mr. Johnson said we would be able to have some control over what is on this sign, but stated that DOT would be picky about

what is allowed on the sign as they have specific regulations.

Ms. Cobb would like to know how the timing will work. She mentioned that other towns have regulations in regards to these signs, and how long they can be on for. Ledyard has no regulations as of right now.

Ms. Schneider inquired about road closures, asking if things of a more serious nature would take precedent over advertisements. Town Liaison, Gary Paul stated that they would take precedent.

Mr. Johnson stated that the electricity costs for this sign will total around \$500 a year.

Ms. Schneider stated that she felt this sign may be hazardous to drivers passing by.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Lucrezia Finegan

SECONDER: Carol Ann Schneider

AYE 5 Cobb Sokolski Harding Finegan Schneider

EXCUSED 3 Kent DiRico Crocker

3. Any other Old Business proper to come before the Commission

None

RESULT: CONTINUE

XI. NEW BUSINESS

1. MOTION to approve waving Summer Camp Fees for Staff Members

Ms. Harding asked what the current fee for camp is. Mr. Johnson stated that it is \$175 per week. Ms. Harding also asked how many attendees there are for camp, she would like to understand how this would affect the income from camp. Mr. Johnson stated that there are 60-80 kids at Popcorn Colonels, 90-100 for Colonels, and 60 for Super Colonels.

Mr. Johnson stated that he is not concerned about the financials as there is only one camp staff member that would be able to utilize this opportunity. He stated that sibling discounts are more detrimental.

Ms. Cobb suggested that they should create a policy for future years on how this discount is processed, looking into the math and figuring out if we should waive these fees or a discount.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Norma Sokolski

SECONDER: Carol Ann Schneider

AYE 5 Cobb Sokolski Harding Finegan Schneider

EXCUSED 3 Kent DiRico Crocker

2. Any New Business proper to come before the Commission

Ms. Harding asked if Seniors are filling out the Membership forms yearly, Mr. Johnson says that we try to update these each July as this is when ECTC also renews their information as well.

Ms. Cobb suggests that we should have more programs geared towards guys, as it was stated that the population is mostly female at the center. Mr. Johnson said that he was very proud as we have done this by bringing on the Breakfast Buffet. He stated that it is mostly senior men that come during the Buffet.

Jessica inquired about the ADA Compliance of this building. She asked if it could be opened to disabled individuals as well. Mr. Johnson has stated that we already are open to disabled individuals as well.

RESULT: CONTINUE

X. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Cobb moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Ms. Schneider

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

VOTE: 5-0 Approved and so declared