



TOWN OF LEDYARD

Parks, Recreation & Senior Citizens Commission

Meeting Minutes - Draft

12 Van Tassel Drive
Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06339

Chairman
Kenneth J. DiRico

Tuesday, July 16, 2024

7:00 PM

Parks & Recreation/Senior Citizens
Center

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman DiRico called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. at the Ledyard Senior Center.

II. ROLL CALL

Present Commissioner Jessica Cobb
Chairman Kenneth J. DiRico
Commissioner Norma Sokolski
Commissioner Margaret Anne Harding
Commissioner Paula Crocker
Commissioner Lucrezia Finegan

Excused Alternate Member Loretta Kent

Non-voting Alternate Member Carol Ann Schneider
Lauren Hawes

In addition, the following were present:

Scott Johnson, Director of Ledyard Parks, Recreation, and Senior Center
Paul Picken, 3 Merry Bell Circle, Ledyard CT 06339

III. RESIDENTS & PROPERTY OWNERS COMMENTS

IV. PRESENTATIONS / INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. ARPA Grant

V. MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Harding stated that she has been corresponding with people who are using the Senior Center, as well as seniors in town, to see what ideas they may have. Feedback she has received is that they do not think the staff is involved enough and people that do not come to the center because they feel like they are treated like invalids.

Ms. Harding stated that she thought Matt Cicchese, the Assistant Director of Ledyard Parks, Recreation, and Senior Citizens Department, should come to the Commission Meetings to give us a rundown on things planned and ideas.

Ms. Sokolski stated that there is not a sense of community and there is no interaction from the staff. She also stated the seniors don't know what is going on there until they receive the Events Magazine. She requested that we have a meeting during the day so that the seniors could attend and bring up their concerns. Ms. Sokolski stated that we needed to get more people involved.

Ms. Finnegan asked if there had been a survey done recently. She also asked if we should have a sub-committee meeting so that it would be on the record.

Ms. Cobb stated that we needed to have the responses to the surveys.

Ms. Crocker stated that when we had meetings during the day, very seldom did any seniors attend. She also stated that the seniors get disappointed when a volunteer can not come to run an activity, the staff is unable to run it, and they cancel the event.

Ms. Schneider suggested that the commission members attend one of the Wednesday luncheons to see how it is run and to interact with the seniors.

Mr. Johnson responded that the newsletter is updated weekly and copies are in the entryway. He also stated that they do the Events Magazine, numerous FaceBook posts, put up flyers and have everything posted on the bulletin boards in the entryway and would take suggestions on the best way to reach out.

Mr. DiRico suggested we make a senior an ambassador to make a connection with other seniors at the center.

Ms. Harding asked the status of the street light at the corner of Van Tassel and Route 12. Mr. Johnson responded that is the responsibility of Chief Rich and the DOT he will follow up.

Ms. Harding asked the status of the flag in the front of the building. Mr. Johnson responded that it will no longer be put out until they have a light.

Ms. Sokolski asked about the status of the fire drill. Mr. Johnson responded he would schedule one when it gets cooler. Ms. Harding suggested that we do a practice run prior to scheduling.

Ms. Sokolski asked about the status of the card swipe at the entrance. Mr. Johnson stated he did not know it was not working and will check on it.

Mr. Johnson stated that they are working on changes and he hopes everyone will be excited for the changes.

VI. REPORTS

1.

MOTION to accept the Directors Report

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Lucrezia Finegan

SECONDER: Jessica Cobb

AYE 6 Cobb DiRico Sokolski Harding Crocker Finegan

EXCUSED 1 Kent

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MOTION to accept June Minutes

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Lucrezia Finegan

SECONDER: Jessica Cobb

AYE 6 Cobb DiRico Sokolski Harding Crocker Finegan

EXCUSED 1 Kent

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Any other Old Business to come before the Commission.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

1. DISCUSSION to allow Boy scout to build a stage on Ledyard Town Green

RESULT: CONTINUE

2. DISCUSSION to allow Ledyard Football to build a floating deck at Judge Crandall

Mr. Picken stated that they had received deck treks from Lowes and would like to build a rolling deck 10 X 10 to house their fryers and grills for the snack bar. He stated that they would supply the gravel and build the deck and requires no support from Parks and Rec other than permission to build. He also stated that they would clear an EMT path.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Lucrezia Finegan

SECONDER: Norma Sokolski

AYE 6 Cobb DiRico Sokolski Harding Crocker Finegan

EXCUSED 1 Kent

3. Any other New Business to come before the Commission.

MOTION to transfer an outside use air fryer that was donated to senior center and not being used to Ledyard Football.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Jessica Cobb

SECONDER: Norma Sokolski

AYE 6 Cobb DiRico Sokolski Harding Crocker Finegan

EXCUSED 1 Kent

X. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Crocker moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded
by Ms. Harding

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

VOTE: 6-0 Approved and so declared