TOWN OF LEDYARD

12 Van Tassel Drive
Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06339

Parks, Recreation & Senior Citizens Commission

Meeting Minutes - Draft Minutes

Chairman
Kenneth J. DiRico

Special Meeting

Tuesday, February 20, 2024 **7:00 PM** **Parks & Recreation/Senior Citizens Center**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman DiRico called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM

II. ROLL CALL

Present Commissioner Jessica Cobb
Commissioner Loretta Kent
Chairman Kenneth J. DiRico
Commissioner Norma Sokolski
Commissioner Margaret Anne Harding
Commissioner Paula Crocker
Commissioner Lucrezia Finegan
Commissioner Carol Ann Schneider

Absent Commissioner Charles Gallagher

In addition, the following were present:

Scott Johnson, Parks, Recreation & Senior Center Director
Gary Paul, Town Council Liaison
Jessica Buhle, Town Councilor

III. RESIDENTS & PROPERTY OWNERS COMMENTS

None

IV. PRESENTATIONS / INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Director Scott Johnson shared the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Work Session Schedule.

1. Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Work Session Schedule

RESULT: DISCUSSED

V. MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Harding asked if we could have Mahjong? Also requested we inquire about crafts, pottery

kilns, macramé. Mr. Johnson stated he can look into that.

Ms. Harding asked the status of the ARPA funds and the exercise room. Mr. Johnson answered that the next step is the submission of application to the State. The process should be a fairly simple procedure. Mr. Johnson stated that Spring/Summer would be the time frame for Public Works to do their work.

Ms. Cobb asked about the two State bills being proposed by Senator Olsten for Stoddards Wharf Park cleanup and a generator for the Senior Center. Mr. Johnson stated he had not heard about the bills and if a generator was received, the Senior Center could be used as a warming/cooling center but not as a shelter as there is no shower. He also stated he will send a letter in favor of the Bill.

Ms. Sokolski asked about the light at the end of the road by the sign. It does not light up good enough. After discussion it was decided to try and get a street light at the end of the road. Ms. Schneider and Mrs. Sokolski stated that they will reach out to the state, town, mayor, planner and Senator Olsten and will discuss again next meeting.

VI. REPORTS

1. Director's Report

Directors Report:

Van Driver will go from full time to part time driver. We will begin to use Schedules Plus to schedule the van and transportation. It also sends out Robo-calls to let the citizens know when they are going to be picked up. Russell who is retiring from full time employment in March has expressed an interest in being a part time driver. Mr. Johnson stated that he is a good van driver and would be an asset.

We are back to being fully staffed. HR is very impressed with the new Assistant Director, Matt. He brings a lot of knowledge with him from working for Colchester Parks and Recreation and has many good ideas for Ledyard.

Parks, Recreation and Senior Center is in a much better place right now and have several things coming up:

Fencing Tournament
5 K Race
Events Programs

Mr. Johnson stated that Little League did not take down the nets on the batting cages and they

broke. He will speak to Little League as they will be responsible for the repair.

Purchase Order for Doors has been submitted.

Soccer is looking for auditoriums for meetings.

The turf manager is planning for upcoming events, and will repurpose seed to Crandall field.

Ms. Cobb asked if there was any way to change it to grass?

Mr. Johnson stated probably not as there is not enough of a break for them to be established.

Mr. Johnson stated that he needs the soccer game schedule for mowing and lining of the fields and usually does not receive a schedule until close to the end of the season.

Russell is retiring and his job has been posted on the Town's Website.

Mr. Johnson stated we may lose access to the playscapes during summer camp due to roofing.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MOTION to approve the Parks, Recreation, and Senior Citizens Commission Special Meeting Minutes of January 17, 2024.

The minutes were referred to the March meeting as there were minor corrections needed.

RESULT: CONTINUE

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Boy Scout Skate Park Project Proposal

Boy Scout Skate Park Project

CIRMA insurance is not against a Skate Park, although the rates may go up.

It was suggested that the presenter research additional information and present it here for approval prior to going to the Town Council.

Maintenance for the Skate Park may be an issues with staffing and upkeep.

RESULT: CONTINUE

2. Rules of Procedure for Ledyard Parks, Recreation and Senior Citizens Commission Powers and Purpose.

RESULT: CONTINUE

XI. NEW BUSINESS

1. MOTION to approve the 2024 Summer Camp Pay Scale Increase

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED
MOVER: Lucrezia Finegan
SECONDER: Jessica Cobb

AYE 8 Cobb Kent DiRico Sokolski Harding Crocker Finegan Schneider

ABSENT 1 Gallagher

X. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.
VOTE: 7-0 Approved and so declared

Respectively Submitted,

_____
Chairman DiRico
Ledyard Parks, Recreation and Senior Citizens Commission