



LEDYARD PARKS AND RECREATION

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PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION Director's Report May 2023

Please note this update for your review.

1. **Commission Meeting:**

The regular meeting of the Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, May 15th, 2023, at 7:00 PM, in the Ledyard Senior Center. Please contact the office immediately if you will not be able to attend.

2. **Youth Leagues:**

Little League and Soccer have started their spring seasons. The leagues have seen an increase in participation and soccer requested more fields this spring than they typically do in the fall.

3. **Summer Camp:**

We have interviewed and hired staff for camp this summer. The coordinators have started planning trips and in-house activities.

4. **Bathrooms:**

The bathrooms and mobile restroom have been opened for the season and porta potties delivered to the parks.

5. **Parks & Rec Truck:**

The new Parks & Rec truck had now been fully outfitted with liftgate, toolbox, seat covers, floormats, and logo. We are in the process of getting ready to sell the old truck.

6. **GFCC Playscape:**

The new playscape behind the Gales Ferry Community Center has been installed and the safety surface has been poured.

7. **Middle School Field Lights:**

The middle school field light project has begun. There was an issue with the lift that caused a one-day delay, but the contractor was able to get a new lift delivered the next day and resume work.

8. **Judge Crandall Flagpole:**

Ordered a new flagpole halyard rope for Judge Crandall Field. Talked to the contractor installing the middle school lights and they agreed to install the new rope while we have the lift on site.

9. **Bridges at Sawmill Park:**

Received a call from a resident regarding the very steep step up to the bridges at Sawmill Park. There are some stone slabs at the Nathan Lester house from an old foundation. I talked to Vin at the Historical Society about repurposing some of those stone slabs as steps for the bridges at Sawmill.

10. **Clarks Water Main Repairs:**

There was a water main break on Clarks field that required Groton Utilities to dig up a portion of the field. In addition to the hole there were also ruts caused by the machine used to dig the hole that had to be repaired. Everything has been filled, top dressed, rolled, and hydroseeded. GU covered the cost of the repairs.

11. **Regatta Day:**

We will be holding the second annual Regatta Day festival at sweet hill Farms in Gales Ferry. We have set up an account under Parks & Rec to house the funds for this event.

12. **Lantern Hill Valley Park:**

Demolition work that was done on the property spread around some Japanese knot weed and mugwort. The invasives were spot sprayed to prevent them from taking the property over before the land can be developed into a park. We are also looking into laying down some black plastic in some areas to suffocate the invasives.

13. **Events:**

- **Regatta Day:** June 10th