

Parks and Recreation regular meeting

June 12, 2018 Conference room at 3 Main St

The minutes are subject to approval by the Parks and Rec Commission.

Present – Ed Marks – Chair, Linda Hess, Pat Barczak, Rance Thompson (6:10), Vincent Yanni, Jr (6:41)

Staff – Amy Mangold, Carl Samuelson, RoseAnn Reggiano

Public – 2 members of the press

Mr Marks called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

Ms Reggiano's report – Strut your Mutt was held. There were about 75 dogs and raised total of \$2348.91. Husky is next year's leader. Since school is ending 6/26, Day camp start date is pushed back to 6/27. Hawley roof is being replaced so the campers scheduled there are being moved. Treadwell has a new credit card machine, so cash is not collected at the site. This is much easier and seems to be working well.

6/23 Rooster Run – Ms Hess will cover bib pick up 5-7 Friday night

6/30 Mad Dash – need help for registration, t shirt distribution, directing people and other areas 2 timers were donated with new batteries by Mr Johnsson. John Voket will MC the event.

Everything is going well. Usage is a little low probably due to weather. Wardens and Gate Guards are doing hourly counts of patrons to track the busy times, which is better than tracking large blocks of time.

Mr Samuelson's report – schedule is currently running about three weeks behind due to the tornado

We received very little damage from the storm. Public Works is still using P&R equipment and there are three trucks down till July when the new budget money is available. Currently have 16 guys with 8 trucks. Locations are up and running some required minor repairs.

Discussion on truck repair problems. Currently the list starts in April of the trucks down until July 1 budget is available. Work with Public Works to keep vehicles running but money is tight so none is available for parts. 2012 truck is getting a second motor, first replacement at 6000 miles now at 26,000 it is just out of warranty and needs to be replaced again. Working with Ford to possibly get some of the cost covered.

Mr Marks shared News Times article on New Milford bike trail initiative. Trail committees have tried before but it needs a more structured approach to apply for the grants and stay focused. It is too much to be on just the commission, keep it in mind for further discussion. Check out New Milford's plan to form our process.

Ms Mangold attended conservation meeting, Mr Rosenthal suggests a subcommittee through conservation to manage trails. Mark Lurie stepped up to work on trails. Holly Kocet will meet with Ms Mangold next week. More people seem to be interested in trails than there used to be; Connecticut Greenways; League of American Bicyclists (financing)

Black Rock Church worked on fruit trail, Victory Garden, Paugussett Trail, and Orchard Hill Nature Preserve from 9 – noon last Saturday. They are considering making this an annual event.

6/2 leaps of Faith held training at Lake Lillinonah Received thank you note from Leaps of Faith

Carnival funds – projects and costs tabled

Ms Mangold viewed location of lending library and discussed details with Fran Tyluki at Dickinson Park. She will be able to view plaque before it is ordered. Working out details but it is moving forward and the timeline is to be complete by the end of July.

Newtown Environmental Action is having a contest – students will submit a design for reusable bag artwork. They will visit camp. 7/6 artwork will be displayed at the Municipal Center. Winning design will on the bags Newtown Environmental Action will be selling, Proceeds from the bag sales will go to Park and Rec for environmental use.

P&R has borrowed two composters from the High School for the summer Day Camp program. A High School student, Anna Cartelli, is going to work with the campers on composting and recycling. Arlene Miles from DPW is going to assist.

Community Center – Matt Arienello is the new director he is currently using a desk, phone and computer in the Park and Rec office. Saturday's question and answer event was well attended with another one being held same time as this meeting tonight. Projected opening date 6/2019.

CIP

10 year plan – need to give better numbers allowing for price escalation and plans to get things to move forward

BOS needs CIP requests in August to be presented to BOF on September 10.

Review of projects:

Eichlers Cove phase 2 – to be paid from special revenue account – ADA ramp is to be done this fall

Bathroom – look at pricing for prefab needs septic and base

Tilson turf – 2019-2020 paid for from surcharge fund

FFH trail phase 3 – this is hard to plan until projects to be located at FFH are decided - don't want to do something and have to undo when projects are set.

Dickinson pavilion project – revisit and reprice, Park and Rec gets revenue from rental from pavilion, business plan requested by Dan Rosenthal, Mr Marks is not sure a business plan is the best way to represent and justify this CIP request.

2012-2022 Dickinson bathhouse and splashpad – public water coming to Dickinson

Duplex remediation and Teen Center renovation – discussion on uses for both, different groups use Teen Center. Once Community Center is open we can determine the needs for the Teen Center. Duplex by Victory Garden would make additional program space. Teen Center possibly renovate with modular or combine with duplex.

2022-23 Maintenance Yard Improvements – wash water recyclers, parking for employees, greenhouse remediation, leader drains and protecting Deep Brook.

Pickleball is gaining interest – request for some kind of fence or blockage at each end of court due to loss of trees during storm.

Lillinonah Park Improvements – add slips maybe 80-100 they will pay for themselves and possibly a small pavilion - Mr Samuelson suggested looking into changing Eichlers acct to waterfront acct to combine finances on two locations

No commercial gas on Lillinonah look into possibility of seasonal lease

FFH Field – Kent or Cochran need to know location of projects to decide

Rail trail – million per mile approximate cost – need dedicated group to focus on trails

CIP Task from Chairman Marks – go back over list - what do you like/dislike – what is not being considered that should be included

Mr Samuelson has 18 years of CIP need to determine when each project was put into CIP Mr Samuelson will get info to Mr Marks - possibly need to look into joining projects to create bigger project for CIP and better pricing

Mr Yanni moved to accept the minutes of May 8th 2nd by Ms Hess. No discussion unanimous approval

Make a Wish Lacrosse Travel Team – requested field time, team is 90% Newtown residents, they qualify for C group with double surcharge. Field time is only rented if available.

Tobacco Draft at FFA Authority meeting – proposal was rejected because it made the entire campus non smoking which would make renting opportunities difficult. Proposal is about quality of life for families.

Proposal to remove #5 and reference to entire campus from policy addressed concerns of the FFH Authority, make policy for P&R areas, Sustainable CT gets 15 points for non-smoking areas and policies

Mr Yanni moved and Mr Thompson 2nd that Park and Rec adapt the tobacco proposal as amended.

Unanimous approval

Mr Yanni moved and Mr Thompson 2nd meeting to adjourn unanimous approval

Meeting adjourned 8:01

Respectfully submitted, LeReine Frampton, clerk

TOWN HALL SOUTH
3 MAIN STREET
NEWTOWN, CT 06470
TEL. (203) 270-4340
FAX (203) 270-4333



CARL SAMUELSON
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, PARKS

TOWN OF NEWTOWN

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PARKS AND FIELDS REPORT

TO: Newtown Parks and Recreation Commission,
Amy Mangold, Director

FROM: Carl Samuelson, Assistant Director – Parks

DATE: June 12, 2018

RE: Monthly park update and field report

We have been playing catch up since the May storm, which has us over 3 weeks behind our scheduled activities.

We currently have 3 vehicles parked awaiting repair in the new fiscal year.

Dickinson Park: Our May storm did not take down any of the trees we desired so 7 Trees are still awaiting removal by Public Works. Storm clean up and regular maintenance continues here. Some vandalism repairs at the skate park have been completed.

Newtown Middle School: No new news here. Storm clean up here has been completed.

Orchard Hill: Some tree and storm damage clean up remains here however the trails have been cleared of downed trees.

Lake Lillinonah: The gate has been repaired from tree damage and the large downed trees have been removed.

Glander Fields: All is well here, the new batting cages are complete and the grass is rowing in well. Regular grooming and maintenance continues.

Liberty Fields: The shed has been placed and tree damage has been cleaned up. Storm work has kept us from completing the walking trail here.

Oakview: This field has responded well to an herbicide used to remove an invasive grass species. We aerated and over-seeded here today.

Tilson Field: No news here.

Treadwell Soccer/Softball: These fields are open and being groomed on regular basis. We removed lips from Treadwell softball this week. The water fountains have been repaired here.

Walnut Tree: The lips were partially removed here removed here and the wet spring has kept things looking good. We have a ways to go on the lip removal here but should be in good shape by the time fall ball starts.

Fairfield Hills: Storm damage has been cleaned up here. High Meadow field has been aerated and over-seeded following lip removal. This field is looking a bit off at the moment as we chemically removed two invasive grass species here. We will be pushing growth for full recovery before the tournament in July.

NHS Fields: Storm damage has been cleaned up here. The fields are holding up well for the season. We will be aerating and over-seeding here in the next two weeks.

Dog Park: Water was turned on here for the season. One nozzle is awaiting replacement.

Treadwell Park: The pool is open for the season and the new pool motors are running great. Storm clean-up has been completed.

Eichlers Cove Marina: The ADA boardwalk has been approved for fabrication. We hope some components will arrive by the second week of August. Before camp starts a few loads of beach sand will be added here.

Staff:

- 296 hours of vacation/sick/personal/injury/discipline hours were used out of 2112 potential work hours in the past month. This represents a 14% loss in workforce.



TOWN OF NEWTOWN

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Title: Tobacco/Smoke and Vape-Free Parks Policy

Date of Adoption: May 12th, 2018

POLICY STATEMENT

The Town of Newtown is committed to a high quality of life for all residents, therefore we believe that:

1. Tobacco/smoke and vape product use in the proximity of young children, teenagers and adults engaging in or observing recreational and leisure activities is unhealthy and detrimental to the health of others.
2. Tobacco/smoke products once consumed in public spaces are often discarded on the ground, thus potentially posing a risk of ingestion to humans and wildlife, causing litter problems and brush fires.
3. As parents, guardians, leaders, coaches and officials we are thought of as role models and the use of tobacco/smoke and vape products around youth has a negative impact on their lifestyle choices.

TOBACCO/SMOKE AND VAPE-FREE FACILITIES

No person shall smoke, use tobacco, or vaping products at any Parks and Recreation facility or associated parking lots, including but not limited to the following recreation areas in the Town of Newtown:

Dickinson Park

Lake Lillinonah

Treadwell Park

Eichler's Cove Beach and Marina

Orchard Hill Nature Preserve

Walnut Tree Hill Field

Glander Fields

Park and Bark Dog Park

Oakview Field

Liberty Fields

Parks and Recreation maintained areas at Fairfield Hills: Trails, Sports areas, High Meadow Field, Glander Fields and The Victory Garden)

COMPLIANCE PROCEDURES

1. Signs will be posted at all Parks and Recreation facilities.
2. Town staff, including the Recreation Director and any Parks and Recreation Staff, will make periodic observations to monitor compliance.
3. The community and facility users will be notified of this policy through various communications channels including but not limited to the town website, local newspaper, program previews and various forms of social media.
4. Athletic associations and organizations that utilize town-owned facilities are committed to enforcing this policy during all scheduled activities and special events.

This policy statement is effective immediately upon the date of adoption, which is June 13, 2018.