

Town of Newtown, CT

3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL BY THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

The Parks and Recreation Commission held an in-person meeting on Tuesday, August 10, 2021 with an opportunity for phone – in public participation, in the multipurpose room of the Senior Center, 8 Simpson Street, Newtown, CT

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Clinton DePaolo at 6:07

Present: Clinton DePaolo, Aaron Britton, Jim Parker, David Payne, Warren Spencer

Staff Present: Amy Mangold, RoseAnn Reggiano, Carl Samuelson

Absent: Rance Thompson, Vincent Yanni

Public: Mr. Michael Bonacci- 12 Meridian Ridge Drive, Newtown, CT 06470
Ms. Alexa Larson- 211 Greenwood Avenue, Bethel, CT 06801

Public Participation:

- Mr. Michael Bonacci came to represent Newtown Thunder Softball and speak about the email that was sent regarding their new rec softball program. He explained it was for girls that didn't make the travel softball team but still want to train with Thunder because they are a more advanced group than Babe Ruth Softball. Ms. Amy Mangold explained the concern with them having their own rec program because that isn't what the group was originally approved for. Mr. Carl Samuelson elaborated and explained that field time and allocations could be seen as becoming a problem between the different groups. Mr. Clinton DePaolo suggested making time for a special meeting to discuss the topic further and more in depth with the commission and both groups. All agreed.
- Ms. Alexa Larson expressed a shared concern with other residents about cyber security and suggested Parks and Recreation have a class on it. Ms. RoseAnn Reggiano told her that it would be more of a Continuing Education class but would look into it. Ms. Alexa Larson also expressed her interest in doing a hill garden behind the community center. Mr. Carl Samuelson explained that it would have to go through Planning and Zoning because there is an erosion problem that may interfere.

Acceptance of Minutes: *Could not be done due to lack of quorum.*

Old Business:

- *None*

New Business:

- *Dog Park Visit:* Mr. Clinton DePaolo reported that the park overall looks good, sections behind the benches need some work. The conversation about fees for the parking permit at the dog park was revisited and how it should be thought about more and possibly discussed further at next month's meeting. Ms. Amy Mangold said that permit prices are usually discussed in late winter that a good amount of thought will go into new fee ideas

for the dog park. The commission agreed to have a meeting at Dickinson before next month's meeting at 5pm.

Correspondence:

- A letter from Newtown Scholarship Association thanking Newtown Parks and Recreation for the donation made from the Rooster Run. (*Attachment #1*)
- 2 emails thanking Newtown Parks and Recreation for all the great work of our counselors at camp this summer and the great time their campers had. (*Attachments #2 & #3*)

Chairman's Report:

Clinton DePaolo, Chairman Newtown Parks and Recreation

- Mr. Clinton DePaolo shared that there will be a meeting for the bicycle playground with Fairfield Hills Authority on August 23rd at 7pm to talk more about the idea.
- Mr. DePaolo also shared that he went to see the fruit trail after last month's meeting and said that it looks great and is amazed at the work that has been done to it.

Directors Report

Amy Mangold, Director of Parks and Recreation:

- Ms. Mangold reported that the skate park project is going great and that the work will be starting on 8/11/2021 and should take about 2-3 weeks. She gave a presentation elaborating on what additions and repairs will be made to the park within that time. (*Attachments #4 through #9*)
- Red Cross evaluations went great at Treadwell and Eichler's. They gave a surprise visit in the beginning of July and the lifeguards did a great job showing their skills. Mr. Aaron Britton suggested that the lifeguard do practice drills with the campers next year so they know what to do as well in those situations and everyone agreed it would be a great idea.
- Ms. Mangold reported that she had a Pickleball meeting last week with Larry Hasket, Ed Miklaszewski & Jan Brown, RoseAnn joined in as well. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss action items for enhancing outdoor pickleball in Newtown. The group decided to meet with Dan to share their ideas and goals with him and then go from there.
- Ms. Mangold and Ms. Reggiano are planning to meet with the Governors Horse Guard on 8/11/2021 to further develop their relationship and partnerships beyond compost.
- The First Selectman and Finance Director will be reviewing our department CIP requests on the week of August 30th. Ms. Susan Marcinek will be contacting Ms. Mangold, Mr. Samuelson, and Mr. DePaolo for meeting times. Years one through four should not change significantly except for price changes. Years one through five are the years approved by the LC. Years six through 10 are for forecasting purposes.
- The Board of Selectmen will be reviewing the First Selectman's request at their September 9th and 20th meetings. The Board of Selectmen approved CIP plan will be presented to the Board of Finance on September 23rd.
- Ms. Mangold reported that there were a total of 9 campers from Danbury that were able to participate in the camp summer enrichment program with scholarships this year.
- Partnerships this summer with Booth Library went wonderful. Ms. Mangold was thrilled with having the concerts in the park on Tuesdays and the Literacy program! A wonderful

partnership this summer. She was able to visit Ms. Nora Reilly at the park last Thursday when she was running the program and share the feedback she had been receiving. Ms. Mangold was happy she was able to witness the wonderful work that Ms. Reilly does with the children. She also shared how Ms. Reilly has a gift of engaging the children and sharing her love and knowledge of literacy.

Assistant Director's Reports:

RoseAnn Reggiano, Assistant Director of Recreation

- Ms. RoseAnn Reggiano reported that day camp went great this year with a total of 332 campers at Dickinson and 223 at Treadwell.
- Rich from Dickinson day camp was so great that they are hoping to do a fall program with him and have him back next summer at camp.
- Numbers for sports and specialty camps were great as well, although some camps were cancelled due to low enrollment but overall still a great summer. People were happy to be able to go out and do things again. All the coaches and instructors were great with following the mask guidelines.
- Newtown softball decided to do another end of summer camp, registration is going well so far.
- Ms. Reggiano mentioned that they are still looking for an Assistant Coach for the fall/winter season of swim.
- Movie night will be next Tuesday, August 17th at Fairfield Hills at dusk (*Attachment #10*)
- Fall brochure is in the works.

Carl Samuelson, Assistant Director of Parks

- *Attachment #11 & #12*

Commissioners out and about: *Nothing to report.*

Motions: *None.*

Adjournment of Meeting: The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 6:00 pm in the multi-purpose room located at 8 Simpson Street, Newtown, CT unless changed to virtual due to COVID restrictions.

Submitted by,

Victoria Weimann, Clerk



**THE
NEWTOWN
SCHOLARSHIP
ASSOCIATION, INC.**

~ Established 1937 ~

**2021-2022
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

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The Honorable
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(1925-2013)

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS
Dr. Kimberly Longobucco
*Principal,
Newtown High School*

Dr. Lorrie Rodrigue
*Superintendent of
Newtown Public Schools*

NSA, Inc.
P. O. BOX 302
NEWTOWN, CT 06470

www.NewtownScholarship.org

[Facebook.com / Newtown
Scholarship](https://www.facebook.com/NewtownScholarship)

August 04, 2021

Newtown Parks & Recreation
3 Main St
Newtown, CT 06470-2104

Dear Newtown Parks & Recreation,

On behalf of the Board of Governors of the Newtown Scholarship Association, thank you for your generous donation of \$2,500.00, dated 7/28/2021, from the Rooster Run. What a great day that was. We will apply your donation to the Lee Davenson Memorial Scholarship.

NSA typically supports more than 150 students from Newtown through the award of approximately \$250,000 in scholarships, including continuing aid beyond just the student's freshman year.

Since its founding in 1937, the NSA has given well over \$4.5 million in financial aid to thousands of young people from our community. That is quite an accomplishment for a small-town volunteer organization. And it would not be possible without the generosity of friends like you.

We, and the students, are very grateful for your support.

Sincerely,

Margaret A. McCarthy

Margaret McCarthy
Assistant Treasurer
Corresponding Secretary

Please retain this receipt for tax purposes. Gifts are tax deductible as permitted by law. No goods or services were provided in return or exchange for this contribution. Newtown Scholarship Association Inc. is a tax-exempt, not-for-profit 501[c] 3 organization, incorporated in the State of Connecticut. Our federal tax ID no. is 06-6059483.



Roseann Reggiano <roseann.reggiano@newtown-ct.gov>

Teen Adventure Travel Camp

Cheri Bisson <cbisson@yahoo.com>

Fri, Jul 30, 2021 at 10:45 AM

To: Roseann Reggiano <roseann.reggiano@newtown-ct.gov>

My son did the last week of Teen Adventure camp and had a great time. Wanted to send a quick thank you to the staff and counselors for doing such a great job. He can't wait to do it again next summer!

Thanks again,
Cheri

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 23, 2021, at 2:50 PM, Roseann Reggiano <roseann.reggiano@newtown-ct.gov> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]



Roseann Reggiano <roseann.reggiano@newtown-ct.gov>

Thank You

3 messages

Laura Nelson <lgraczyk21@gmail.com>

Mon, Aug 9, 2021 at 11:25 AM

To: Roseann Reggiano <roseann.reggiano@newtown-ct.gov>

Good Morning,

I wanted to email and say THANK YOU for such a great camp experience for my son Shepherd Nelson. He came home Friday asking if we could sign him up again for this next year - he just loved it so much! In fact, he's been talking about it all weekend.

It means so much to us that he had such an amazing experience. Also, please send a BIG SHOUTOUT to Mr. Rich and Mr. Will - he spoke highly of them. Personally, Mr. Rich was awesome in teaching Shep the love of skateboarding. He mentioned there may be a program coming in the fall at the skatepark and we will definitely be on the lookout for that to sign him up.

Have a wonderful day.

Sincerely,
Laura

Roseann Reggiano <roseann.reggiano@newtown-ct.gov>

Mon, Aug 9, 2021 at 4:07 PM

To: Laura Nelson <lgraczyk21@gmail.com>

That's awesome!
this makes my day
Thank you so much
Rose Ann Reggiano
Assistant Director Recreation
Newtown Parks and Recreation
8 Simpson Street
Newtown, CT 06470
203-270-4373

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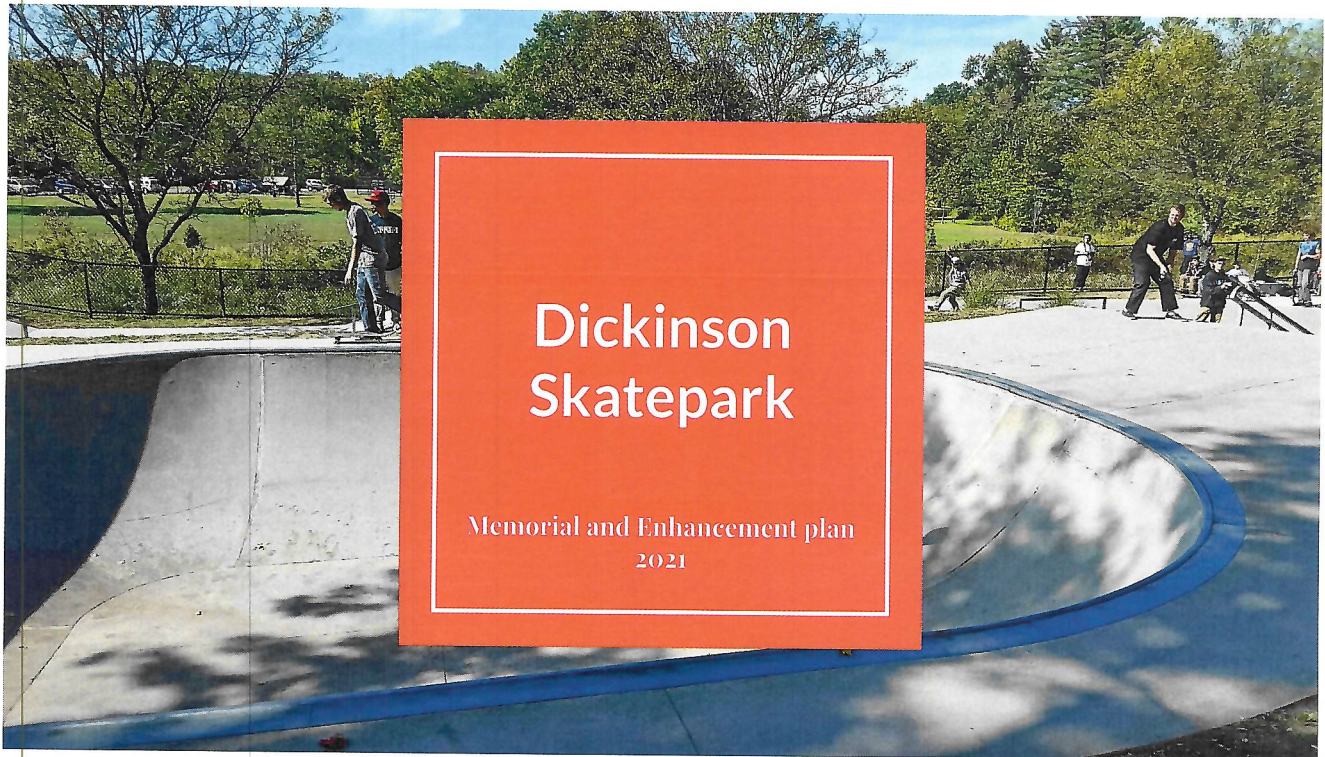
Roseann Reggiano <roseann.reggiano@newtown-ct.gov>

Mon, Aug 9, 2021 at 4:07 PM

To: Stephen panza <spanz@yahoo.com>, Alex Chatz <alex.chatzi01@gmail.com>

they keep coming on the awesome job!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
Rose Ann Reggiano
Assistant Director Recreation
Newtown Parks and Recreation
8 Simpson Street
Newtown, CT 06470
203-270-4373

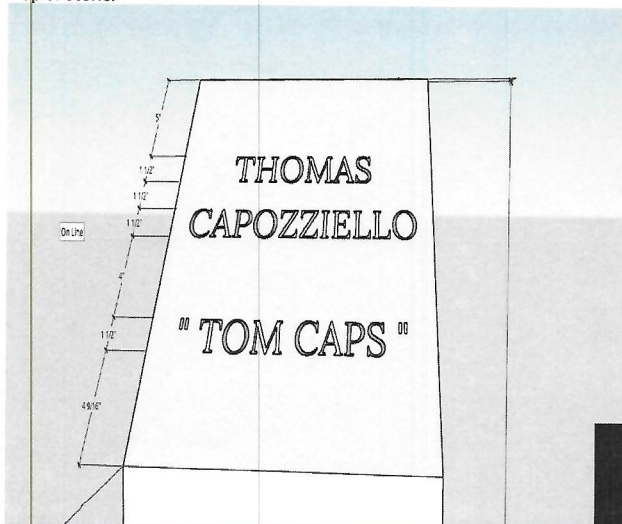
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Thomas Capozziello Stone

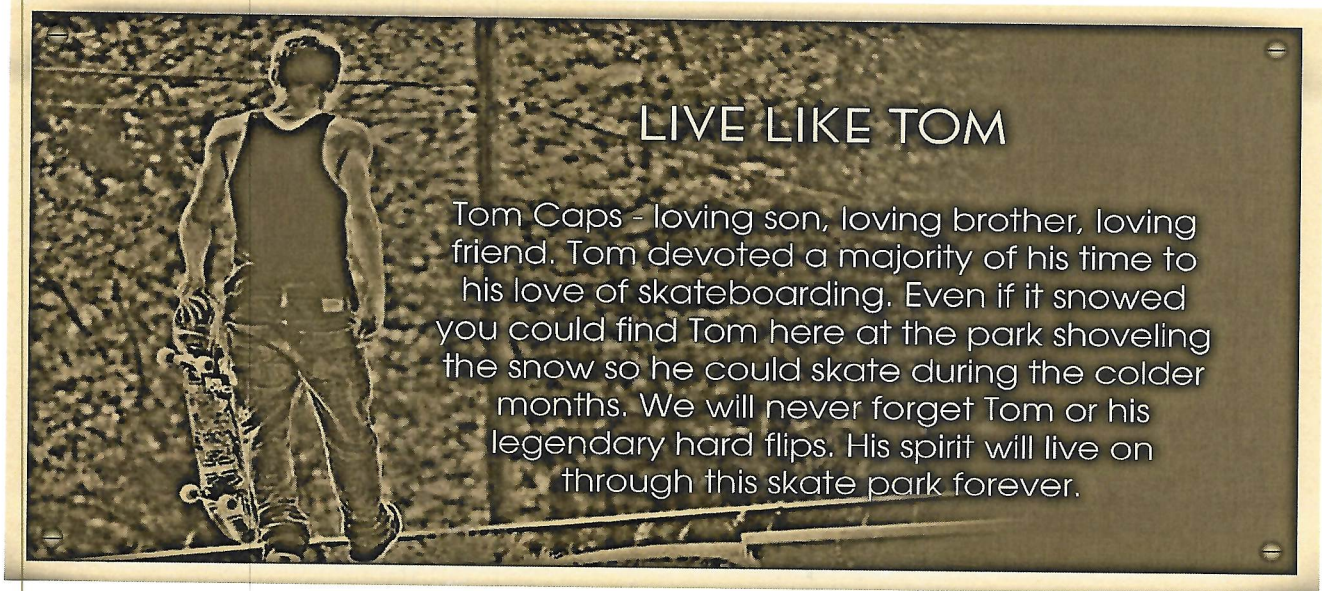
11:30:01 AM Scale: 1:3.47 Height: 33.331 Length: 25.759 in

Top of Stone:

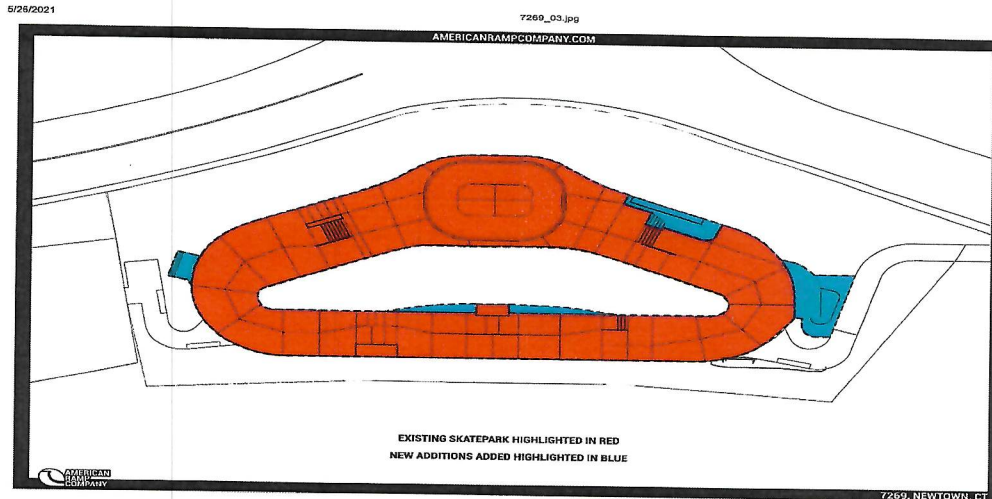


Example of stone design



Front of Stone**12" x 14"****Plaque****Stone location**

Park Enhancements



<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#search/wade%40americanrampcompany.com?projector=1>

1/2

More photo details on Enhancements





Budget

Stone: \$2,352.97 Tax: \$149.41 Total: \$2,502.38

Plaque: \$950 Shipping: \$57 Total: \$1007.00

Park Repairs and Enhancements:

Price 1 Custom work \$18,400.00 Mobilization/warranty LA highbanks \$2400.00

Total \$20,800.00

Project Total: \$24,309.38

Capozziello Fund: \$22,400.00

Donate to skate fund: \$225.00

Town Balance: \$1,684.38 Capital & more donations pending

Deliveries and Project Timeline

Skatepark email update ARC: Heather Ogden 9:15 AM 7/9/2021

Hi Amy,

I apologize I haven't gotten back to you yet. I was doing some schedule juggling. I'm out of the office until Monday due to a family emergency, but my crew is finishing a project in South Dakota and are headed to Maine next week for two projects which will overlap and shouldn't take too long. I've asked my superintendent to review the repairs required and come up with a plan to complete them. I believe 2 or 3 of my crew will pull off the final Maine project once they have reached substantial completion and head your way. I will discuss this further with Ben this afternoon and see if he had an approx. timeline of when he thinks that will be.

Again, I apologize for the delay in getting back to you. I will give you a call Monday to discuss the schedule as soon as I hear back from Ben today. Happy Friday! Thank you.

Heather

7/13/2021

Good morning Amy,

I sent the scope over to my superintendent to review and get back to me, but he hasn't yet. I will follow up with him now on it.

Thank you,

8/9/2021

Amy, I spoke to Landy this morning and I apparently, I misunderstood. His truck is in the shop and he is picking it up today and will be traveling tomorrow. I was off by a day. He will be there Wednesday to start work. I apologize for the confusion.

Tomorrow 8/11/2021 YAY

Stone

From Swenson Granite

Jul 8, 2021, 2:47 PM (21 hours ago)

This post was completed today, it will be on the next truck.

There is a significant amount of pieces done for N-54 as well so I was planning a load for Monday.

With this said I would think the middle to end of next week we could see the load here in CT.

Gregg Walter

Update Stone is in the maintenance garage!! 8/10/2021

Plaque & Correspondence

On 7/8/2021

Peter Kasten from Metal Design LLC reported to me on the phone that they are really busy and he estimates that the plaque will be complete and shipped out on July 14th, 2021.

A report and update is being generated to the Chris and Pat Capozziello for their planning purposes. I will continue to work with them on any plans or details.

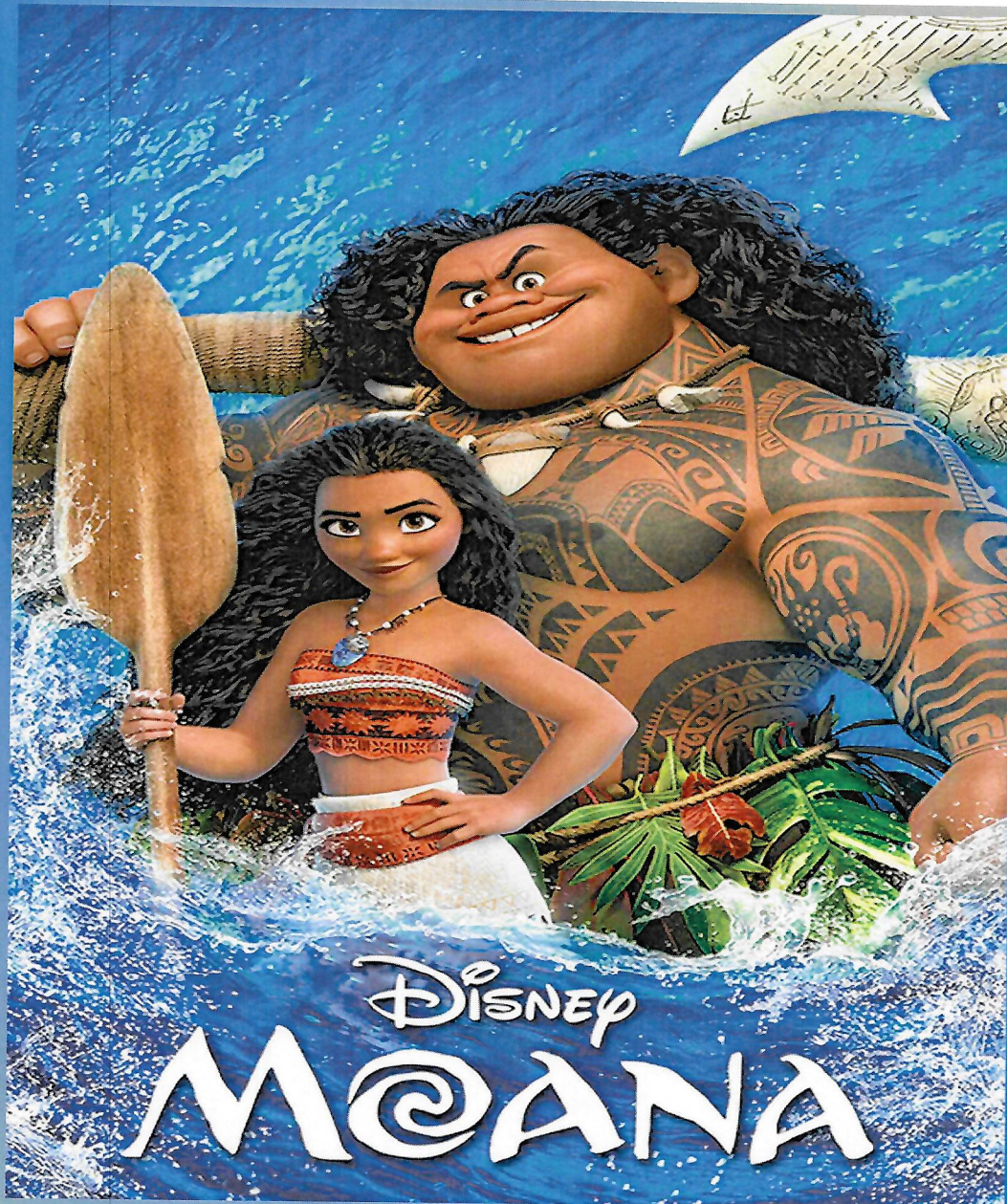
Amy Mangold

Director

Newtown Parks and Recreation 8/10/2021 Update!! Plaque is in my office : Amy

JOIN US FOR AN OUTDOOR MOVIE

AUGUST 17TH



SPONSORED BY NEWTOWN PARKS & RECREATION
& NEWTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER

AUGUST 17TH
RAIN DATE THE 18TH

BEGINS AT DUSK
FAIRFIELD HILLS SOCCER FIELD

BRING PICNIC BLANKET AND ENJOY THE SHOW
SNACKS AND BEVERAGES AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE



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



Attachment #11

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: August 10, 2021

RE: Monthly park update and field report

Camp, weather, construction and summer vacations have kept our crews as busy as ever. Camp ended last week after a great year. Seasonal tasks and getting a few construction projects wrapped up have been the focus this past month. We have our 10th annual field day in Town tomorrow in conjunction with CRPA. New door hardware has been being installed at various locations to replace failed key pads.

Dickinson Park: Camp has ended so the crews have been working hard to clean up from a long summer. Vandalism continues to be a problem. I have spoken to the Police at length about timing of vandalism and increasing patrols.

Newtown Middle School: No new news here. The field is ready for fall use.

Orchard Hill: Things are in good shape here following storm clean up.

Lake Lillinonah: No new news here.

Oakview: Regular mowing continues here. The field is ready for fall sports.

Tilson Field: We are still awaiting field repairs. Its looking like it will occur in the second week of September as crews are busy completing field installs before Labor Day.

Treadwell Soccer/Softball: Fields are in good shape. Regular grooming and mowing continues here and fall sports have actually begun.

Glander Fields: The concrete slabs for the dugouts have been poured. The only task left is putting on the metal roofing. These will be complete prior to the start of the fall season.

Liberty Fields: Regular grooming, mowing continues.

Walnut Tree: We utilized an old gate leaf to repair the gate here. We still need to have the fencing repaired. We also had public works remove a limb that a rope swing kept getting installed on.

Fairfield Hills: Vandalism has still been a problem here as well. Mostly graffiti, however the same bench plaque has been removed three times as well. We have cut inside the fencing on some of the buildings being looked at for housing. We planted two trees on campus this past month at the Community Center.

NHS Fields: Regular mowing and grooming continues here. These fields are open and in good shape and ready for fall sports.

Sandy Hook School: These fields are open and in good shape and ready for fall sports. A failed irrigation pump here has been ordered.

Hawley School Fields: These fields are open and on the regular grooming, mowing and painting schedule. I met with youth football regarding lighting upgrades and offered some suggestions as well as potentially working with the BOE to get the back football field turfed sooner rather than later.

Eichlers Cove Marina: Things have been fairly quiet but good here. Regular maintenance continues as scheduled here.

Dog Park: New benches have been installed. We are awaiting the tennis ball holders by the girl scouts to install on the fencing.

Treadwell Park: Things have been running smooth here. Camp has ended so we will be doing a good deep cleaning as we do every year. Some recent playground maintenance was completed as ordered parts arrived..

Pole Bridge Preserve: No new news here

Watertown Field: These fields are open and our regular grooming, mowing continues schedule. We need to get the backstop installed here for Watertown 2 in order to open this field soon.

Staff:

- 256 hours of vacation/sick/personal/injury/discipline hours were used out of 1600 potential work hours in the past month. This represents a 16% loss in workforce.