

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 9, 2022, with an opportunity for phone – in public participation, at the Newtown Community Center, 8 Simpson St, Newtown, CT 06470

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Clinton DePaolo at 6:03pm

Present: Clinton DePaolo, Aaron Britton, David Payne

Staff Present: Amy Mangold, Carl Samuelson, RoseAnn Reggiano

Absent: Warren Spencer, Jim Parker, Vincent Yanni, Rance Thompson

Public: Ms. Alexa Larson

Mr. Charles Zukowski- 4 Cornfield Ridge Rd, Newtown, CT, Bike and Trails Committee Member

Public Participation:

- Ms. Alexa Larson shared that she went to the Fruit trail and pulled out some weeds and suggested planting ground cherries. Ms. Larson also suggested looking into getting interlockens, which are interchangeable lockers, around town.

Acceptance of Minutes: Acceptance of the minutes of the March 8, 2022 meeting has been tabled until August due to low attendance.

Acceptance of Minutes: Acceptance of the minutes of the May 10, 2022 meeting has been tabled until August due to low attendance.

Acceptance of Minutes: Acceptance of the minutes of the June 14, 2022 meeting has been tabled until July due to low attendance.

OLD BUSINESS

- Bicycle Playground *Update:* Mr. Clinton DePaolo shared that the parcel of land for the bicycle playground was approved through the planning and zoning committee. Ms. Amy Mangold thanked members of the bike and trail committee for coming to the meetings to support. Ms. Mangold also shared that the vote for approval was unanimous and that she is eager to come up with a funding and building timeline for the bicycle playground project soon. She spoke with First Selectman Dan Rosenthal about being considered for the ARP funds now that the project was approved. Mr. Rosenthal shared he would put it on the agenda for town council to be discussed. Ms. Mangold later spoke with Mr.

Rosenthal about how the meeting went and he shared that it will be discussed more at the next meeting and if it is approved it will next go to the board of selectmen.

NEW BUSINESS

- Dickinson Pavilion Repairs: Mr. Carl Samuelson shared that he had gotten some quotes for the pavilion at Dickinson. Mr. Samuelson shared that he plans to do a scope review with a company called Tremco, who has been doing a lot of work around town. Mr. Samuelson also shared that if they chose Tremco they wouldn't have to put it out to bid because it would be under contract. Mr. Samuelson shared that if they chose to do a shingle roof for the repair of the pavilion it would cost under \$150,000. However, if a metal roof was chosen for the repair of the pavilion it would cost over \$150,000. With the replacement of the electrical service for the pavilion, there would be an additional \$30,000 cost to the project. In consideration of both roofing options, Mr. Samuelson pointed out that with a shingled roof, kids have climbed on the roof and ripped off shingles in the past. Mr. Samuelson shared that he will be meeting with the contractor from Tremco at the end of the week to have a scope review of the project. Mr. Samuelson also shared that the roof on the bathrooms at Dickinson will need to be repaired due to leakage from the skylights, which would cost an additional \$15,000. He hopes to have that done at the same time as the pavilion roof. Once Mr. Samuelson has the total cost of all the repairs, he will propose it to Mr. Dan Rosenthal.

Correspondence

- A thank you letter from a Teen Adventure Camp camper(Attachment #1)
- A compliment on a program from Ms. Barbara Snyder (Attachment #2)
- A compliment on the Fruit Trail from Ms. Kim Chiapetta (Attachment #3)
- A message from Ms. Louise Zierzow thanking the department for the summer concerts at Dickinson (Attachment #4)
- A thank you note to the Planning and Zoning commission from Ms. Amy Mangold (Attachment #5)
- An email from Mike McCarthy from NUSAR regarding use of Eichler's Cove (Attachment #6)

Chairman's Report

Clinton DePaolo, Chairman Newtown Parks and Recreation

- Mr. Clinton DePaolo shared that the movie night had gone well despite the delayed start.
- Mr. DePaolo also reminded commission members that CIP is coming up to keep it in mind for the next meeting.

Directors Report

Amy Mangold, Director of Parks and Recreation:

Assistant Director's Reports:

- Ms. Amy Mangold commented that this summer has been very busy and that all programs and events have been going very well. Ms. Mangold thanked all the staff for their hard work to help make summer great.
- Ms. Mangold shared that the concerts went really well this summer; one that had been canceled due to the heat will have a makeup show at the carnival next week. Ms. Mangold thanked Ms. Kate Geerer for organizing and running the concert series
- Newtown Parks and Recreation Department is teaming up with the Newtown Community center to do a luau at Dickinson Park on August 15 at 5:30.
- Ms. Mangold shared that the Parks and Recreation department will be co hosting a senior lunch concert at Dickinson with the Senior Center on Friday, August 12.
- Ms. Mangold shared that through the summer enrichment grant program they were able to help fund two Ukrainian families to go to camp this summer. She shared that they had a great time and that the families were so happy to be there.
- Ms. Mangold also shared that she hopes to have more staff meetings now that summer is starting to slow down. There are plans to have some staff training as well such as a course in sign language The summer staff worked so hard and have done such a great job this summer. Ms. Mangold shared that they will be holding some small special events to recognize their hard work and success.
- Ms. Mangold mentioned that if you haven't been to the new adaptive playground at Dickinson yet that you should take a ride over and visit it. The partnership with the Lions Club was a wonderful success and Ms. Mangold is currently helping Mr. Walt Schweuigert apply for the 7th annual municipal excellence awards, the "tropical award" which is an award for innovation and diversity equity and inclusion through the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities.
- Mangold thanked the IT department for all their help with the outdoor and indoor technology needs this summer and also to Donna Colbert in the health department for her help with monitoring the water at Eichlers Cove. There were only two closings the summer and hope to not have too many more for the remainder. Miss Mangold also shared that they have done very well with not having many COVID cases this summer among staff.

RoseAnn Reggiano, Assistant Director of Recreation

- Ms. Roseann Reggiano shared that the Rooster Run held in June went great. There was a total of 308 runners, 192 for the 5K, 78 for the 10 K, and 38 little Dashers. She also shared that they were able to raise a total of \$4500 for the Newtown Scholarship Association. Ms. Reggiano thanked The Newtown Bee, The Learning Experience, CT Eye Care, Lenahan's, Caraluzzi's, Newtown Medi Spa, Pleasant Paws, NVS, and Culligan water for their support and generosity.
- Teen adventure camp was the best ever. Some weeks had over 50 campers. There were a total of 229 campers for all five weeks. Ms. Reggiano gave a big thank you to Site Director Nicole Nicholson for doing such a great job.
- Ms. Reggiano shared that Dickinson day camp had a total of 557 campers this summer with an average of 79 per week. Treadwell day camp had a total of 604 campers with an average of 86 a week. There was an eighth week of day camp at Dickinson Park this summer with a total of 85 campers.

- All other camps such as knitting, modeling, dance, babysitting, cartooning, painting are all filled up. Sports camps are full as well and the Lego and STEM camps were a hit. Ms. Reggiano shared that they added two more camps.
- Ms. Reggiano shared that she added a new camp called slime week and it was great, there were a total of 14 campers and the kids loved it. There was also a new cooking program called kids test kitchen; healthy eating. There were 10 registered. Ms. Reggiano shared that they learn how to make two recipes a day and get to bring them home, the feedback was great.
- There were a total of 65 camps this summer and out of all of them only two were canceled due to low enrollment.
- Ms. Reggiano thanked all the lifeguard staff for their amazing work this year. She gave a special thank you to the Waterfront Director Diane Sarna and the assistant Waterfront Directors Melissa Petertonjes and Caroline Mahoney along with the head guards Natalie Barden, David Lawrence, Devin McGovern, John Wojtowics and Mopsy Seaver. She shared that they ran a very well organized team and that there will be a lifeguard appreciation party at Treadwell.
- Next week is the Newtown Parks and Recreation carnival starting on Tuesday, August 17 and will run until Saturday, August 20.
- Ms. Reggiano is starting to prepare for fall 2022 and winter 2023 programs.
- The third annual scarecrow contest will be happening in the month of October.

Carl Samuelson, Assistant Director of Parks

- *Attachments #7, #8 and #9*
- In addition to Mr. Samuelson's report, he shared that he had been getting lots of questions as to why the fields were being watered while in a drought. Mr. Samuelson shared that water use only has to be reduced by 20% once the drought hits stage three. Additionally, by watering the fields it helps keep the soil and ground softer for fall sports and can help reduce impact.
- Mr. Samuelson also shared that the teen center is in much need of some renovations. He plans to do some upgrades on the outside of the building such as replacing the siding on the front and sides of the building.
- Looking ahead, Mr. Samuelson shared that he will soon need to begin looking into budgeting for the maintenance of the new Sandy Hook permanent memorial.
- With CIP coming up Mr. Samuelson suggested looking at doing bathroom renovations for both Dickinson and Treadwell as they're both over 10 years old. It was suggested that there be one thing replaced per year to help reduce the impact of cost, such as paper towel dispensers one year or sinks the next.
- Mr. Samuelson brought up a discussion had with Ms. Roseann Reggiano about putting an additional Sand volleyball court at Dickinson. Ms. Reggiano shared that Sand volleyball is becoming a popular sport and the sand volleyball camp that runs over the summer always fills up. With an additional court they will be able to accommodate more participants and programs.

Commissioners out and about:

- Mr. Aaron Britton shared that he was impressed with the road race this year as he went to support his daughter who had run in it.

Motions:

- *None*

Adjournment of Meeting: The meeting was adjourned at 6:48pm.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 6:00 pm in the Newtown Community Center multi-purpose room located at 8 Simpson Street, Newtown, CT unless changed to virtual due to COVID restrictions.

Submitted by,

Victoria Weimann, Clerk

Dear RoseAnn,

Thank you for another
amazing Summer at
Lean Camp. Nicole is
amazing and appreciate
everything you all do.

Sincerely The Shopes
Nick, Kathleen, Chris & Keegan Rose



Amy Mangold <amy.mangold@newtown-ct.gov>

note from Barbara Snyder

1 message

Amy Mangold <amy.mangold@newtown-ct.gov>

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



Newtown Cultural Arts

to me

Yes well I didn't get us here but I feel very proud of what I have added to an already wonderful event.

BTW-my twin granddaughters took the Princess Ballerina camp at Graceful Planet and Loved it.

I have the most wonderful video of the entire clase at final performance. So sweet. Amazing.



Amy E. W. Mangold

Director Newtown Parks and Recreation

Office (203) 270-4342

FAX (203) 270-4333

amy.mangold@newtown-ct.gov

The benefits are Endless!!!



1 message

Tue, Jul 26, 2022 at 3:39 PM





[Newtown CT] Before I forget. Amy, (Sent by Louise Zierzow, lzierzow@gmail.com)

1 message

Thu, Jul 7, 2022 at 9:08 PM

To: amangold <amy.mangold@newtown-ct.gov>

Louise Zierzow (lzierzow@gmail.com) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/user/473/contact>) at Newtown CT.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.newtown-ct.gov/user/473/edit>.

Message:

My daughter, son-in-law and I so enjoyed the Celtic music in the open air and the sight of many children running and dancing to the music. Watching planes overhead heading out from NYC to Amsterdam/Paris/Frankfurt (Andy has an app on his phone). Eating pizza al fresco. We hope to join our neighbors and friends next week. Again, thanks!

Newtown Parks & Recreation Department
3 Main Street
Newtown, Connecticut 06470

Dear members of the
Planning and Zoning
Commission,

The Bicycle Playground
team would like to send
our gratitude for the
unanimous support that
was given to us for the
Bicycle playground project.
We are very excited to
bring this fun new
benefit to Newtown
and our community children.
Thank you for your time and
volunteering on this commission.

Sincerely Amy Mangold & The BP Comm. Hc.

Dennis Bloom Chairman
25 Philo Curtis Road
Sandy Hook, CT 06482

From: Carl Samuelson <carl.samuelson@newtown-ct.gov>

Date: August 12, 2022 at 11:49:48 AM EDT

To: Victoria Weimann <weimannvictoria01@gmail.com>, Victoria Weimann
<victoria.weimann@newtown-ct.gov>

Subject: Fwd: [Newtown CT] Eickler's cove (Sent by Chief Michael D McCarthy, chief@nusar.org)

Carl Samuelson

Assistant Director, Parks

Office: 203-270-4378 Cell: 203-948-2523

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Contact form at Newtown CT <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>

Date: Mon, Aug 8, 2022 at 10:13 AM

Subject: [Newtown CT] Eickler's cove (Sent by Chief Michael D McCarthy, chief@nusar.org)

To: csamuelson <carl.samuelson@newtown-ct.gov>

Hello csamuelson,

Chief Michael D McCarthy (chief@nusar.org) has sent you a message via your contact form
(<https://www.newtown-ct.gov/user/493/contact>) at Newtown CT.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.newtown-ct.gov/user/493/edit>.

Message:

Carl NUSAR would like permission to hold a "Dive a thon" fund raiser at the beach at Eichler's Cove beach on Saturday September 17, 2022 hours would be 10:00am till 9:00 pm this event is to raise funds to assist NUSAR in covering operating costs and for safety equipment upgrades.

Thank you of your consideration

Be Safe

Michael D McCarthy Chief

Chief@nusar.org

203-788-2853

MAINTENANCE
OPERATIONS FACILITY
2 TRADES LANE
NEWTOWN, CT 06470
TEL. (203) 270-4340
(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: August 9, 2022

RE: Monthly park update and field report

We are fully staffed and are starting to make headway on some tasks we fell behind on. Our summer rangers are starting to head back to school, a clear indicator that summer is winding down. There is some restoration work at our shop related to the sewer line project which will be completed this fall.

The balance of the summer will consist mostly of daily maintenance tasks and fall sports will be starting in a couple of weeks. Once the weather cools off a bit we will begin completing some of the construction tasks we need to complete.

We cut the high grass and brush around the perimeter of the Animal Control Facility and cut and cleaned out the associated drainage here.

We cleaned up around the old PD/Office in preparation for sale.

Dickinson Park: The playground repairs are complete and surrounding seeding was done, however the dry weather has not been too great for establishing new grass. We still need to remove the construction road which will take place later this fall.

The pavilion estimates are taking shape. We will be close or slightly over budget.

We planted some trees that were left over from the Sandy Hook Memorial that were very drought stressed, hopefully they recover and will add some needed security across the front of the park.

Camp seemed to go well, and we have repaired some typical vandalism and wear items in the past month.

New distance signs were added to the softball field. The lightning detection units were serviced and new batteries were installed.

Newtown Middle School: The baseball and softball fields were weeded here. Weekly mowing and field grooming continue for the season. New distance signs were added at the baseball field. The lightning detection units were serviced and new batteries were installed.

Orchard Hill: Regular maintenance here continues. Trail clearing was done here prior to the Lions cleanup day.

Lake Lillinonah: No new news here. Weekly mowing and daily garbage/grill cleaning will continue for the season.

Oakview: The beds have been weeded and mulched here. We have started to put millings here from paving projects to improve the parking lot here. We will soon be lining here for fall sports. The lightning detection units were serviced and new batteries were installed.

Tilson Field: The hill here was cut in anticipation of fall sports. Football has started using this field for conditioning.

Treadwell Soccer/Softball: The softball field fencing was repaired and some erosion issues coming off of the hill were repaired. We continue to groom and mow the softball field. Field turf has repaired one line and will be repairing a second line next week.

Glander Fields: We did a mini renovation here in advance of a NYB tournament converting the field to a 60' base line field. The fields were edged, lips removed, and clay was added. The fields were put back to the original configuration following the tournament. Things are looking good here. New distance signs were added to the field. Weekly mowing and field grooming continue for the season. The new scoreboards purchased by NYB were installed prior to the tournament as well. The lightning detection units were serviced and new batteries were installed.

Liberty Fields: . Edging and weeding was completed here prior to the softball finals. New distance signs were added to the fields here. Weekly mowing and field grooming continues on a scheduled basis. Fencing repairs were completed here. The lightning detection units were serviced and new batteries were installed.

Walnut Tree: Weekly mowing and field grooming continue here. A solar lightning detection unit was added here. The bullpen was weeded and groomed here as well.

Fairfield Hills: The campus is still under construction with the sewer line project but is not affecting our day to day operations. The lightning detection units were serviced and new batteries were installed.

NHS Fields: The artificial field project is going well. Our responsibility of removing and stockpiling the existing root zone mix, and removing the irrigation components is complete. Most of the base preparation is complete as well. They will finish the topping stone and install the carpet in the next couple of weeks. The lightning detection units were serviced and new batteries were installed.

Sandy Hook School: Weekly mowing and field grooming are ongoing for the season.

Hawley School Fields: Weekly mowing and field grooming are ongoing for the season. We will be installing the goal posts from the back high school field once school is out.

Eichlers Cove Marina: The beach is open and the slips have filled up. Beach grooming and regular maintenance will continue here for the rest of the boating season. The lightning detection units were serviced and new batteries were installed.

Dog Park: Weekly mowing and maintenance continues here.

Treadwell Park: Camp is over and fall sports will soon begin. The paver project will resume once the weather cools down some. Cameras for the pool and park were removed from the old

PD. The lightning detection units were serviced and new batteries were installed.

Pole Bridge Preserve: No new news here.

Watertown Field: Weekly mowing and field grooming will continue for the season. The lightning detection units were serviced and new batteries were installed.

- 152 hours of vacation/sick/personal/injury/discipline hours were used out of 1848 potential work hours in the past month. This represents a 8.5% loss in workforce.