

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, November 10, 2020 with an opportunity for phone in public participation, in the multi-purpose room of the Senior Center, 8 Simpson Street, Newtown, CT.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ed Marks at 6:07 pm.

Present: Edward Marks, Clinton DePaulo, Warren Spencer and Vincent Yanni.

Staff Present: Amy Mangold and Carl Samuelson

Absent: RoseAnn Reggiano, David Payne and Rance Thompson

Public: Ms. Alexa Larsen, Victory Garden and Fruit Trail

Public Participation:

Ms. Alexa Larsen joined the meeting in person to address her concerns regarding public safety on campus. She would like to be kept in the loop regarding safety issues, and also about writing grants for town projects. Ms. Larsen suggested forming a Grant Writing Committee for community projects, to which Commission Chairman Marks agreed. Mr. Marks suggested that she get in contact with the Town Purchasing Agent, Rick Spreyer for direction regarding specific town needs and about how to get such a grant writing committee formed.

Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion:

No motion was made to accept the Minutes from the October 13, 2020 Commission Meeting due to not having a full quorum at the time, as some commissioners phoned in, and could not be present for the entire meeting.

Old Business:

- *Commission Changes:*
The committee discussed that Commissioner Clinton DePaolo would more than likely step up to become the Parks & Recreation Commission Chairman. They will take a vote at December's Commission Meeting. A Commission Vice Chairman is still needed.
- *Disc Golf Update: (See attachment #1).*
Brian Giggey of Explore Disc Golf, submitted an in depth analysis on the Disc Golf Course for Fairfield Hills Campus. It was discussed on a project pre-approval zoom call with George Benson, Director of Land Use, Ross Carley, Amy Mangold, Carl Samuelson,

Clinton DePaolo and Chrystal Preszler. Ross Carley made an admirable effort to check on other disc courses in the area for discussion purposes. George Benson stated that he wasn't sure if all or just some of the meadow is part of Newtown's protected open space. It was disappointing to hear that it would be a "fight" to gain approval to use some of the meadow areas in discussion. Chairman Marks suggested that we contact Land Use to confirm which meadow areas are on or off limits. Commissioner DePaolo stated that Disc Golf is a perfect fit for the campus as it is not destructive whatsoever, and it fits into the existing topography so nicely. "It is hardly a Walgreens" were the words he used! Assistant Director of Parks Carl Samuelson stated he believed that the protection only covers the high meadow portion. Chairman Marks stressed the need to really look into the restrictions and the exact language used to see what can be done in and around this lovely area.

- *Bicycle Playground Update:*
Parks and Recreation Director Amy Mangold had a very productive meeting with Paula Burton and Brad Accettella regarding biking options for Newtown. At the moment, grants are not being given for strictly recreational activities under the Sustainable CT guidelines. They can, however, apply for the Active Transportation Grant for design services to connect Housatonic Bike Trails to town trails as active transportation is currently a priority. Chairman Marks stated that "it's the most important item on our agenda currently. I am really excited about this". To which everyone agreed unanimously!

New Business: (see attachment #2)

- *Budget:*
Director Mangold presented the Parks & Recreation Budget. The Parks and Recreation Department was quite cognizant of the direction given by Bob Tait and Dan Rosenthal. It is, once again, a difficult financial climate and frugality is priority number one for Parks and Recreation. Because of this, only a small \$3,981 increase is being requested out of the line items that are not dictated by automatic increases. Consequently, the only increase that reflects Parks & Recreation's pressing needs is the Capital line items (see attachment #1). They went through each item line by line with the only addition to the Capital needs list being item # 16 – to the tune of \$75,000 for a much desired Bicycle Playground. Chairman Marks stressed that he would like the Bicycle Playground to be a committee priority. The commissioners and staff then went through each item, line by line, stressing that most of the needs of the department are strictly that: NEEDS. Most decisions have been made to save the town money long term. As stated by Chairman Marks, only the last three items are actual offerings for the town. Ms. Mangold pointed out that "the pandemic has made it even more clear how crucial recreational programs and outdoor spaces are to the community's health and wellness. Parks and Recreation services have become even more critical to the fabric of Newtown. Trails and open space amenities serve as the sole source of recreational opportunities for many in the community. We believe it is vital for Newtown Parks & Recreation to continue to provide residents of all ages and abilities with opportunities to improve physical and

mental health.” It was also discussed that a totaled trailer was not replaced and now has moved into an “ask” column instead of just a given. The committee voiced its frustration that the Parks Department has saved over \$17,000 in contractual services, and does not seem to be allowed to use their own savings for needed items. The commission asked for a written understanding as to why advertised fundraising monies for the gift fund, via the carnival, cannot be used for the projects for which it was intended.

Correspondence: (see attachments #3 and #4)

- Attachment #3 – an email from Mary Ellen Maday
- Attachment #4 – a thank you note from Patricia Zolmer

Chairman’s Report:

Edward Marks, Chairman Newtown Parks and Recreation:

- None.

Director’s Report:

Amy Mangold, Director of Parks and Recreation: (See attachment #5)

- Ms. Mangold informed the commission about plans for this year’s tree lighting. Due to Covid, there will be no formal event. What is planned, is for the tree to be lit before dark, and for the luminaria to be lit for citizens to enjoy privately in whatever manner they so choose. It will be advertised as a “Silent Night Stroll”. Ms. Mangold stressed that of all years, this is not one to deny the community the beauty of the luminaria and lit tree to which all the commissioners agreed. Ms. Mangold also mentioned that the borough of Newtown is co-sponsoring this event.
- A local artist, Lindsay Fuori, has offered her time and talent to create a mural at the building by the dog park for the community’s enjoyment (see attachment #5). Parks & Recreation is going through the appropriate channels for approval of the design.

Assistant Director’s Reports:

RoseAnn Reqqiano, Assistant Director of Recreation: (See attachment #6)

- Please see attachment.

Carl Samuelson, Assistant Director of Parks: (See attachment #7)

- Please see attachment.
- Mr. Samuelson asked the committee for its authorization in using \$5,500 from surcharge (namely, Babe Ruth’s \$5,500 donation for sod) to complete the renovation of Watertown Field.

Motion:

Commissioner Vincent Yanni made a motion to approve \$5,500 from surcharge (a Babe Ruth donation) for the completion of the Watertown Field project. Commissioner Clinton DePaolo seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Commissioners out and about:

Commissioner Clinton DePaolo gave a shout out to Assistant Director RoseAnn Reggiano for the Scarecrow Contest that she implemented. He said, he and his wife and children really enjoyed walking the Fairfield Hill Campus checking out all the different scarecrows.

Motion:

Commissioner Clinton DePaolo made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Vincent Yanni, which was then carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 8, 2020 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,

Kate Geerer, clerk

To access a recording of this meeting, please click here:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1WtyVX9a7K5fW3NuyngjHjJ6eTsLK_UWT

Explore Disc Golf

40 Front Street

Belchertown, MA 01007

bgiggey@gmail.com

413-213-1171

October 14, 2020

Site Analysis of Fairfield Hills in Newtown, CT

Fairfield Hill is a sprawling, bustling campus with a wide variety of uses that should be seriously considered for an 18-hole disc golf installation. While the majority of the mixed-use site is densely populated in the center of the property, the periphery is well connected with the Red Trail that moves users to the further reaches of the parcel. Even with this popular trail getting use throughout the day, a professionally designed disc golf course can be easily integrated while enhancing the recreation offerings at Fairfield Hills to a new demographic of users.

Our firm has visited Fairfield Hills multiple times, but our most recent visit focused solely on this property. The Master Planned maps from 2013 show building demolition, athletic field additions, and new traffic patterns to compliment the already existing framework of the property. While the timeline for these items is unknown to our firm, it was apparent that the routing of the course should compliment these programmatic elements best as possible, while still giving them enough space to eliminate any safety concerns. Much time was spent between the baseball field and the trail head/parking area in the Northern section of the property to understand the entry and arrival sequence that will one day be implemented via the Master Plan.

At first glance of the Master Plan, most will agree that 2/3 of the property is off limits for disc golf. The Eastern section of the property, however, can benefit from a disc golf installation. With rolling fields, panoramic views, cascading stone walls and potential for cross promotion of disc golf would be a seamless transition. Given the high number of users on the Red Trail paired with the linear topography and restorative meadows, it is critical that a professional course designer be considered for Fairfield Hills. A poorly designed and routed course would cause more harm than good on property that offers as much promise as this.

More time will need to be spent on site to get a proper understanding of the best routing for a potential course, but naturally, the best jumping point for a course would be in the Northern section of the property near the turnaround and trail head. We understand this entry and arrival sequence will one day be re-done, but it appears that vehicles and pedestrian traffic will still be able to access this section in the future. While we don't look at "hole scale" this early in a project --- as overall routing is the main focus in the early stages --- we have located a strong 1st and 18th hole that will provide not only a challenge and aesthetic beauty for players, but compliment the site and existing infrastructure of the Red Trail with no safety concerns whatsoever.

One of the biggest challenges of this site is the restorative meadow that is found to the East of the baseball field. While we do not intend to propose disc golf holes in these areas, how the restorative meadow is handled will be a key component in the proper routing and flow of the course. There a handful of options to work around these sensitive areas --- all of which will need to be addressed with the Conservation Commission to ensure the successful implementation of a course. We have a few solutions in mind already; each one can change the routing of the course depending on which is approved. Addressing the restorative meadow with the Conservation Commission would be one of the first suggested steps before really getting into the details of routing and hole scale design.

The baseball field area provides an interesting opportunity and challenge as well. While there is a section of the restorative meadow nearby, there are drastic changes in topography in this section that could be utilized for a hole that not only provides striking views over the campus, but cross promotion to users of the field that may be unaware that a disc golf course is only steps away. While a hole does not need to be implemented in this section of the property this does provide a critical link to the routing of the course, so much time will need to be spent in this area to weigh the true impact of one's design decisions.

There is a small section of usable space behind the NYS Sports & Fitness building, but the rest of the area shouldn't be strongly considered. Much of the area, especially along the walking path is wet or shows sign of a potential high water table, which wouldn't be advised for a disc golf hole. There are sections near the walking path that would be suitable for a disc golf hole that connects to the upper section of the property, but that can be further explored on future site visits if contracted for design services. Gaining a full understanding of the parcel boundary to the South of the walking path in this area of the site will also provide useful information on how much useable space there is in this section.

At the top of the site near the water treatment facility is another couple sections of the restorative meadow. Course routing in this area will be delicate and dictated by the approvals from Conservation Commission, but once again, there are already a few safe, enjoyable options that can bypass any concerns. As one appears from the woods, there are striking panoramic views that must be captured by a properly designed course. Working down the hill towards the Northern section of the property will find a mix of field and wooded shots, ultimately bringing users back to where they started. Much of the wooded area at the bottom of the hill has some specimen trees, cascading rock walls and underutilized sections of the property that a course should draw attention to.

While in this section of the property, we had conversations with a few mountain bike riding groups about their bike routes, frequency of use and connectivity to the surrounding context. We even walked a few of the bike/horse paths back up the hill along the Eastern border of the property. While an interesting section of the property, we felt like we were outside the property boundaries at that point. This is an area that we spent some time exploring, but would like to get a better understanding of parcel boundaries before committing more.

Overall, we thoroughly enjoyed our follow up site visit, and strongly encourage the town to consider disc golf at Fairfield Hills. While the Red Trail is highly used around the property, a professionally designed course would compliment the existing infrastructure while cross promoting to a new demographic of users through strategic design. Elements like the restorative meadow will provide a challenge for design and routing, but shouldn't be an issue in the grand scheme of the course install. It is our opinion that the Town no longer needs to pursue other properties, as Fairfield Hills has the opportunity to provide a technical, yet beginner friendly course that can be enjoyed by players and ages of all levels. Phasing in the course over two 9-hole loops would be a challenge given the routing complexity, but can be done. That being said, we would suggest proceeding with an 18-hole course from the onset, if budget allows, due to large scope of the routing needed to not only properly connect to significant onsite features, but also safely compliment the infrastructure of the Red Trail and sensitivity around the restorative meadow.

What are some benefits of including disc golf in Fairfield Hills?

- Provide a healthy, popular form of passive recreation to the general public.
- Take advantage of underutilized space in some sections of the property and attract a new demographic of users through increased visibility to those around the course.
- Increase safety through heightened use throughout entire parcel.
- Move users to significant on-site features (i.e. views, topography, trees, foundation relics)
- Strengthen connection between centralized portion of the site and the meadows.

- Help create a connection “link” between wooded sections of property near Red Trail.
- Opportunity for environmental education like in the restorative meadows.
- Infrastructure for weekly leagues, tournaments, school clinics and team building.
- Source of revenue creation through membership, leagues, bag tags and more.
- Possible economic boost for restaurants, hotels and surrounding businesses.

Revenue creation potential at Fairfield Hills

- 1.) Greens fees. Put up an honesty box, and ask for \$5 donations.
- 2.) Course/club membership. \$100-\$150 per year is the usual range.
- 3.) Bag tags. We suggest purchasing 50 tags with your logo (\$5 each) and selling for \$20 each.
- 4.) Leagues. We suggest \$5 league fee --- \$3 to payout, \$1 to ace pot, \$1 to course/club.
- 5.) Tournaments. We suggest \$5-8 greens fee for each player. Typical entry fees hover around \$40. A local player will find you, and maybe even spearhead some work days, etc. Eventually, they can run your tournaments for you; just be clear about money distribution.
- 6.) Hole sponsors. We suggest in the \$100-\$250 per hole, as a ballpark. Duration varies, but \$250-\$500 for lifetime is pretty standard. Great way to offset tee box sponsors is a Value-in-Kind sponsorship from a local lumber/gravel yard.
- 7.) Course/club apparel. T-shirts, hats, custom discs, mini markers, and towels are all minimal costs.

Approvals by Conservation Commission

A properly designed disc golf course at Fairfield Hills shouldn't run into any issues with the Conservation Commission. There are some lower, wetter areas behind NYA Sports & Fitness, but the course should steer clear of those areas. There is enough space throughout the rest of the property that those wet areas should be a non-issue, and with no other stream crossings or denoted wetlands in the section of property would be best suited for disc golf, the conservation commission should easily green light any disc golf proposal at Fairfield Hills.

Budget Analysis (2021 Pricing)

- 18-hole Explore Disc Golf design fees: \$18,000.00 flat rate (1-tee/18-baskets)
- Innova DISCatcher Pro targets: $\$450 \times 19 = \$8,550.00$ (includes shipping)
- Hole Signage (9" x 12"): $\$150 \times 18 = \$2,700.00$
- Wayfinding Signage (3" x 5"): $\$35 \times 18 = \630.00
- Course Map Signage (24" x 36"): $\$300 \times 1 = \300.00
- Travel and lodging expenses (Estimated): \$1,000.00

TOTAL ESTIMATE FOR 18-HOLE DISC GOLF COURSE = \$31,180.00

Additional Costs to Expect

Below are some Additional Costs to Expect. We typically list these separately, as they vary greatly from project to project.

Tee Boxes

Gravel tee pads reinforced by a 5' x 10' lumber frame are the standard. Some projects don't even use the lumber, while others go another step and put a rubber tee pad on top of it. These rubbers tee pads are nice, but very slick when wet. You can always start with natural tee pads (marked my Hole Signage, obviously) and then put in nicer tee pads as the course begins to “break in.” We don't suggest concrete tee pads, as that is just more impervious surface and added project costs. Many projects can typically get gravel/lumber for free so explore options with Value-in-Kind hole sponsorship or engaging a

town relationship that may see a mutually beneficial end result. Worst case, paying full price, a nice gravel tee pad is usually only around \$75-100 each.

Installation

Please be advised, that the above Project Budget does not include Installation as a line item. Our firm does provide Installation services --- pricing varies, but assume \$1,000 per hole as an estimate --- but the majority of our projects are installed by either the Department of Public Works, city staff, Boy Scouts, or local volunteers/community service projects.

Message Board Kiosk

The message board kiosk is MANADATORY to have a successful disc golf course, as they denote the first tee to players. Some kiosks don't take full advantage of the opportunity with a Course Map, sponsorship lists and league info, but ALL disc golfers look for the kiosk so that they know where to start their round. There is currently a kiosk next to the parking trailhead in the Northeast section of the property. Depending on where the 1st tee goes, there may need to be another kiosk for disc golf to find the 1st tee, course map, sponsor/league info and more.

Course Design services by Explore Disc Golf

If contracted in the future, our firm would send over a Service Agreement that contains project budget, timeline, deliverables and much more. We have included some example deliverables of our Course Design services below:

Example Deliverables

- Professional representation throughout project.
- Flagging of tee and basket locations (one per hole).
- Flagging of significant trees to be saved and highlighted.
- Flagging of important trees/shrubs to be removed.
- Flagging of signage locations, and pathways between holes.
- Document detailing Final Flagging structure for installation and clearing.
- Digital file creation of Hole Signage, Course Map, and Wayfinding Signage.
- Provisions of all signage and disc golf baskets.
- Course page setup on Disc Golf Course Review website.

About Explore Disc Golf

Explore Disc Golf is a full-service disc golf design-build firm, owned and operated by Brian Giggey (MLA) and Zeena Giggey (BLA) with offices located in Belchertown, MA. With both owners highly trained within the fields of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning, Explore Disc Golf focuses on using the disc golf course as a framework to educate the public about the sport and the restorative benefits of nature. Explore Disc Golf has the endorsement of the game's leading manufacturer, Innova Disc Golf, while Brian Giggey is a sponsored player and a member of the Innova Ambassador Team. As members of Disc Golf Course Designers and certified officials by the Professional Disc Golf Association, Explore Disc Golf aims to provide disc golf course design services for all scales of implementation from 18-hole championship courses to 3-6 hole "pocket courses" at private residences, schools, business parks and more!

Credentials for Inclusion in Bid, if necessary

- Masters Degree in Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning.
- Explore Disc Golf, a professional disc golf course design firm, has been in business for 10 years.
- Designed over 30 permanent courses.
- Designed and installed over 50 temporary courses with The Mobile Disc Golf Experience, featuring contracts for Live Nation Entertainment, Dave Matthews Band, Life is Good and more.
- Consulted on over 20 proposed/Master Planned courses.
- Sub-contracted for 2 courses under Landscape Architecture firms on \$2M and \$40M projects.
- Sponsored player and endorsed disc golf course designer by Innova Disc Golf.
- Member of Disc Golf Course Designers Group, Professional Disc Golf Association and New England Flying Disc Association.
- Spoken at multiple Park and Rec conferences in Northeast, and a Course Design Seminar in Georgia.
- Fully insured.

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

1. **Vehicle leases** – Annual lease payment#3 of 5 for 1 vehicles acquired in 19/20 FY. **\$10,000.**
2. **4th Request Kubota 3010 -** Replace 19 year old tractor with new turf tractor more suitable to run implements used by the department. Existing tractor is too small and unreliable to run most of the implements used in field maintenance practices. Existing tractor has a 1750 lb lift capacity; most of our implements exceed 3000 lbs. **\$87,000.00 / \$22,500 #1 of 4 lease payment**



3. **Toro Groundsmaster 1200 -** 14 Ft tow behind rotary mower to complement existing fleet and help with mowing demands in the spring and fall. Also serves as back up for aging primary mowers no longer leased **\$26,500**



4. **Cut off saw/Weed Eaters/Back Pack Blowers** – Gas cut off saw, weed eaters and back pack blowers to replace old units that are beyond repair. Existing units would require almost as much in parts as new units cost. Weed eaters and blowers are used in the daily maintenance of parks, fields and Town buildings. **\$5,000.00**

5. **3rd Request Replacement of (2) 2004 walk behind mowers** – Replace two 2004 SCAG walk behind mowers. \$14,000 (\$7000 x 2)



6. **3rd Request Sidewalk Snow Plow for FFH** – Outfit existing equipment snow removal equipment to keep up with increased department demands on the FFH campus. With the opening of the ambulance garage and daily expectations for walk clearing this equipment will allow for efficient walk clearing as we cannot currently keep up. \$15,000.00



7. **4th Request Replace Bannerman and terra Top Aerators** - Replace two pieces of unserviceable equipment with one more efficient aerator. \$35,000 (Was \$45,000) *(circa 1972)*
8. **Replace totaled grooming/small areas trailer** - Replace enclosed trailer totaled by insurance company. Add to insurance funds received. \$12,000
9. **Tractor Rental** - Rental of turf tractor(If not purchased) during times of seasonal demand. Currently due to lack of tractors to run implements we fall behind on seasonal cultural practices. Tractor rental will allow us to efficiently complete these seasonal tasks. \$10,000
10. **Sandblast Body and Frame** – Restore body and Frame of 2008 heavy duty dump truck to extend service life. Process includes sandblasting to remove rust/rot, minor repairs, and repainting of frame and body. \$7000

11. **Ventrac Seeder** Acquire seeder for existing ventrac machine for small areas and slopes. Split with conservation. \$8000 total...\$4000 our share



12. **Repair Stairs and loading dock at FFH shop** Replace failed and dangerous concrete stairs and loading dock concrete at FFH shop. Existing concrete has failed and is unsafe. \$30,000





13. Replace failing keypad entry system – Replace failed or failing keypad entry devices at Eichlers Cove, Treadwell park (3), Teen Center and FFH Shop 6 doors at \$1600.00 each \$9,600
14. Skatepark Maintenance and expansion – Refurbish/replace worn park components and some fencing as well as expand features to add value. \$60,000
15. Disc Golf Course – Implement plan for Frisbee golf course on FFH campus. \$35,000

16. Bicycle Playground ~ \$75,000



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

[Newtown CT] Thanks (Sent by Mary Ellen Maday, Mmaday34@gmail.com)

1 message

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

Reply-To: Mmaday34@gmail.com

To: amy.mangold@newtown-ct.gov

Thu, Nov 5, 2020 at 3:57 PM

Hello amangold,

Mary Ellen Maday (Mmaday34@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:

I like to thank Park & Rec for the wonderful Dickenson summer concerts and the added two Sunday concerts. They were terrific and appreciated, especially by the senior community. Kate did a great job on that!

Also, thank you to Roseann on the Scarecrow Halloween event, that was a wonderful and creative idea!

Finally, Natalie mentioned that you are considering a Line Dance program with Kevin Burland. I would love that! Kevin knows all the dances and I used to attend his Line Dance practices at the Danbury Senior Center. I think he could do a program by Zoom and it would be successful and well attended. Line dancing is good exercise with good music, also keeps the mind working.

Thanks for including "seniors" in P&R programs!

Mary Maday

Attachment # 4

Thank you from the bottom of
my heart and I know John
thanks you, too!!

SO MUCH!

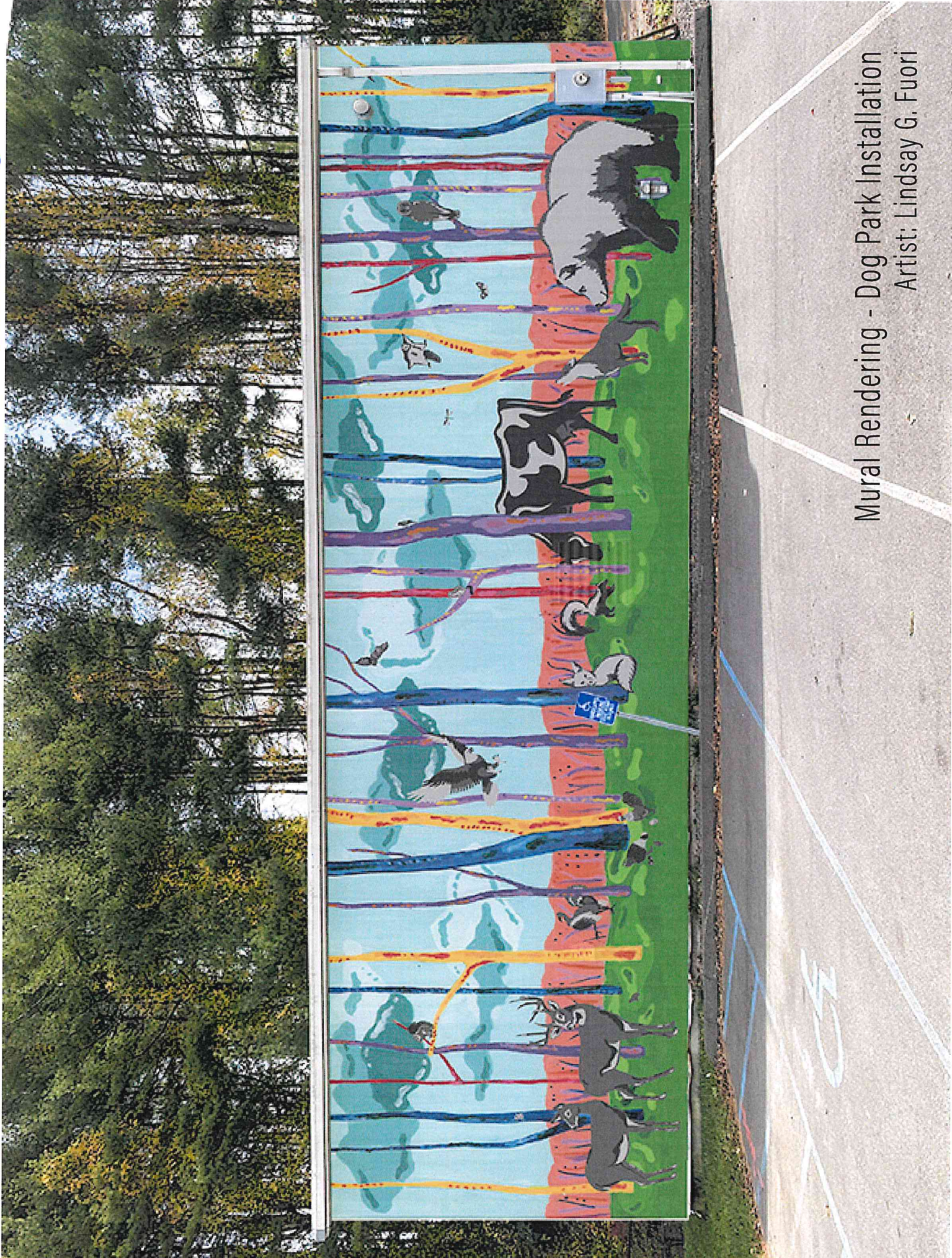
Thank you again - Steve
a peaceful and wonderful
Thanksgiving

Pat Palmer
(John Kimardi)

To the wonderful staff at Tukwila,

As Thanksgiving approached
I want you to know how
thankful I am for your
kindness and the caring way
I was treated when I was there
to reserve the memorial for
John at Dickerson Park.

John LOVED Newtown and
always enjoyed telling me about
the great people and times in
Newtown. I am so happy that
I experienced what he already
knew. Everyone there was so
helpful and sincere. I felt
your heartfelt compassion and
want you to know what a difference
you made.



Mural Rendering - Dog Park Installation
Artist: Lindsay G. Fuori

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RoseAnn Reggiano
Assistant Director Recreation

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TO: Parks and Recreation Commission
Amy Mangold, Director

FROM: Rose Ann Reggiano, Assistant Director – Recreation

DATE: November 10, 2020

RE: Monthly Report

We had our Spookatuclar Halloween event on October 24 at Dickinson Park. We did social distance games, which were painted on the grass, Simon, Chutes and Ladders, Dracula Says and Jedi Tag. Allow with social distance circles. Thank you to our maintenance crew for doing an awesome job in preparing the field. There were about 85 participants through the time we were there. Everybody loved it, what a great idea! Best costumes went home with a Pumpkin donated by Castle Hill Farm. John Voket was the DJ and did an amazing job.

Scarecrow contest was a success, 26 lampposts were adopted for scarecrows. Participants said this was an awesome idea and cannot wait to see what is next for the holidays. The winners Frist Place - Newtown Pride: The Newtown Bee; Most Original: Girls Scout Troop 50382; People's Choice: Church Hill Village. Second Place – Newtown Pride: Unified Sports; Most Original: Jenny Merchant and People's Choice: Governors Horse Guard. Also recognized was the first scarecrow that was put up Newtown Health Dept. Honorable mention were

Thank you to all of our sponsors of this fabulous event, Mt Pleasant Hospital for Animals, BD Provisions, Franco Pizza, Pleasant Paws, Good Directions, Reverie Brewery Co, NVS, UK Gourmet and Your Healthy Pet.

Currently working on winter programming for 2021. To have it ready for the new year.

Amy and I met with Economic Development to work on promoting businesses in town for the Holidays

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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: November 10, 2020

RE: Monthly park update and field report

We have been focused on seasonal tasks associated with winterizing and leaf cleanup of our facilities. Construction of fields and repairs has been ongoing but we are making big gains with the weather recently. The full staff attended Flagging Training this past month.

Dickinson Park: The irrigation and bathrooms are fully winterized. We set up/broke down for the annual Halloween party. Initial leaf cleanup has been completed here as well. Dormant fertility has been applied.

Newtown Middle School: The irrigation here is fully winterized. Dormant fertility has been applied.

Orchard Hill: Initial leaf cleanup has been done. A good portion of the Lions Club list has been completed.

Lake Lillinonah: The dock has been removed and the boat ramp was graded when the lake was low.

Oakview: Things are fully winterized here and the field has been deep tine aerated. Dormant fertility has been applied.

Tilson Field: Field Turf has yet to complete some needed repairs. We are in touch with them however no date has been given.

Treadwell Soccer/Softball: Fields are being used on a regular basis now, however most seasons are coming to a close. Dormant fertility has been applied to the softball field.

Glander Fields: The irrigation here is fully winterized. These fields are currently in the process of being verti-quaked. Dormant fertility has been applied.



Liberty Fields: The irrigation system is fully winterized here. Dormant fertility has been applied.

Walnut Tree: Dormant fertility has been applied.

Fairfield Hills: High Meadow, The green and the Victory Garden irrigation systems have all been winterized. The dilapidated handicap ramp in front of Plymouth Hall was cut up and removed, as well as some dead tree removal there.

Silt fence and overgrowth was cleaned up behind the community center as well.

New ornamental grass beds were created at Tammy's Garden for volunteers to plant.

The holes in the access road to the temporary pickle ball courts were filled.

NHS Fields: Fall sports are winding down. The irrigation is fully winterized here. We have deep tine Verti-Drained all of the fields here. Dormant fertility has been applied.

Sandy Hook School: The here has been winterized. Dormant fertility has been applied.

Hawley School Fields: Dormant fertility has been applied.

Eichlers Cove Marina: All of the docks have been removed for the season. The ramp was graded for next season when the lake was lowered.

Initial leaf cleanup has been completed here.

Dog Park: The water system here has been winterized for the season.

Treadwell Park: Both pools are covered and now winterized for the season. The parking lot retaining wall has been coated with mold and mildew remover which gradually works over time.

Initial leaf cleanup was completed.

Pole Bridge Preserve: No new news here.

Watertown Field: The irrigation system has been winterized. We have been pushing Watertown 2 with fertilizer to get plant maturity prior to winter. The full field was cut for the first time this week was completed, sod has been installed and seeding has all been completed. We are hoping for a few mild weeks to get some decent germination prior to winter.

We have started a mini-renovation on Watertown 3, taking advantage of the warm weather and to get a jump on spring work.





Staff:

- 200 hours of vacation/sick/personal/injury/discipline hours were used out of 1760 potential work hours in the past month. This represents a 11.25% loss in workforce.