

MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING  
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
February 8, 2022

PRESENT: Chairman Joseph Schettino, Commissioners Ron Stopkoski, Michael Sutyla, Richard Karcich, Chris Passante

Also present: Robert Potter

Guests: Erin Kanicki and Michalina

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Regular meeting minutes and Public Hearing meeting of January 11, 2022:

- A motion was made by R. Stopkoski, seconded by R. Karcich to approve the Regular meeting minutes of January 11, 2022 as submitted. The motion carried with a vote of 4 in favor and 1 abstention (M. Sutyla)
- A motion was made by R. Stopkoski, seconded by R. Karcich to approve the Public Hearing meeting minutes of January 11, 2022 as submitted. The motion carried with a vote of 4 in favor and 1 abstention (M. Sutyla)

A motion was made by M. Sutyla, seconded by R. Karcich to move 6b (Review of Park and Recreation policies and procedures) to the March meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by R. Stopkoski, seconded by M. Sutyla to move 6c to 3a (Dog Park). The motion carried unanimously.

Dog Park:

- E. Kanicki and Michalina informed the commission that a "Friends of Bailey's Dog Park" has been incorporated
  - Their bylaws will be submitted to R. Potter
  - This is a separate group set up for a separate purpose, not to be endorsed by the Park and Recreation Commission
- They will direct all communications and issues to R. Potter
  - This includes all items that go into and out of the dog park
- This group will raise funds to support the park with the supplies needed, outside the cost of what the town can and does provide, going forward

Correspondence:

- A letter was received from Paul Gebauer recommending the baseball field at the Indian River Complex be named "the Willie Fritz Field"
  - He explained that W. Fritz dedicated a lot of time and devoted himself to the town and kids
  - The commission will accept the request and take it under consideration
- A motion was made by M. Sutyla, seconded by R. Stopkoski to put this recommendation on the April meeting agenda. The motion carried with a vote of 4 in favor and 1 opposed (R. Karcich)

Old Business:

CEC:

- The CEC budget consisted of
  - The dredging, reclamation and fire water safety of Hesper's Pond (\$200,000)
  - The Track Re-seal and Stripe (\$35,000)
  - The IRRC Building – floor replacement (\$5,000)
- The CEC budget will be presented to the Town Council on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, by the Town Manager

Budget Review:

- The 2022-2023 budget will be presented to the Town Council on February 17<sup>th</sup> by the Town Manager

Harry Swaun Pavilion:

- The boulder for the plaque has not been installed
- The handicap ramp needs to be installed
- The pump house had a new asphalt roof installed and is complete

Skate Park Public Hearing:

- The turn out for the public hearing was very good with various ages presenting articulate reasons to maintain the skate park
  - Such as serving this segment of the Clinton population
- Should the Park and Recreation Commission decide to keep the skate park the following needs to be addressed:
  1. Security/ surveillance needs to be improved and maintained
  2. A “Friends of Clinton Skate Park” needs to be created to help maintain the park and provide contact information
  3. Need to determine how much money the town wants to spend at the skate park to bring it back to a safe level
  4. The skaters need to self-police and notify authorities of issues
- Prior to a decision from the Park and Recreation Commission, they need a response/report from the Police Department

New Business:

Beach Concession Stand:

- Last year’s concessionaire has decided to not operate the concession stand due to high electric bills
- A suggestion was made to develop an RFP for the concession stand
- A motion was made by R. Stopkoski, seconded by M. Sutyla to request approval from the Town Manager to advertise with an RFP for the beach concession stand. The motion carried unanimously.

Video Surveillance:

- M. Neff is working on repairs and updates to enable the surveillance cameras to be viewed on the monitors at the IRRC building
- Not all parks have cameras and the commissioners would like all parks to have them
- A motion was made by M. Sutyla, seconded by R. Karcich to move Video Surveillance to the March meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Passante left the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Director’s Report:

General update on Park and Recreation facilities:

- The roof blew off the Peter’s press box
  - A temporary roof has been installed at the cost of \$1,700, this could become an insurance claim if the entire roof is replaced at a cost of \$23,000
- The basketball court at Peters has a large crack (gap) which will be addressed in the spring
- A beach pavilion’s roof needs to be replaced, this was a budgeted expense
- The fields may open up April 1<sup>st</sup> dependent on the remainder of the winter weather
- The scheduling meeting is normally held in March; however, teams are not organized by then
  - A motion was made by M. Sutyla, seconded by R. Karcich to move the scheduling meeting to April. The motion carried unanimously.
  - R. Potter will have interim discretion to schedule/ permit scholastic or other organizations use of the fields on a day to day/ week to week basis prior to April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Timeline for IRRC baseball refurbishment:

- Refurbishment to be done on the baseball field includes, cut out the base line, repairing the berm, drainage and sod.
  - This work will be done by the DPW and will take approximately 2 months
- A motion was made by R. Stopkoski, seconded by M. Sutyla to refurbish the IRRC baseball field in the fall (work to start no sooner than September 1, 2022). The motion carried unanimously.

C. Passante returned to the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

Park and Recreation Basketball:

- The mask policy (while in a school building a mask must be worn) and current incident were discussed
- Police officers were hired for Saturday basketball

Received 2 grants for Park and Recreation programs and camps

- Received a thank you from the Community Foundation for all that the Clinton Park and Recreation does for the youth.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy McDermott  
Clerk