

MINUTES
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
March 1, 2022

PRESENT: Chairman J. Schettino, Commissioners M. Sutyla, R. Karcich, J. Mendez and G. Maher

Absent: R. Stopkoski and C. Passante

Also present: R. Potter

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

Minutes of February 8, 2022:

- A motion was made by M. Sutyla, seconded by R. Karcich to approve the special meeting minutes of February 8, 2022 as submitted. The motion carried with a vote of 4 in favor and 1 abstention (J. Mendez).

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

Harry Swaun Pavilion:

- Work on the pavilion is on hold due to the weather
- The inscription for the plaque needs to be drafted

Skate Park:

- R. Potter met with Chief DeMaio who reported there were 30 response calls to the skate park over the past 3 years
 - This is in par with the response calls to the town beach and Indian River Complex
- Discussed the need for representation (such as a Friends of the Skate Park organization/committee) to be in place
- The skate park needs to be evaluated to determine what equipment needs to be repaired or replaced
 - If replacement is required, determine what type of apparatus to replace it with

Scholastic Field Schedule:

- A motion was made by M. Sutyla, seconded by R. Karcich to authorize R. Potter to schedule scholastic use of town fields until the full community sports schedules are reviewed at the Park and Recreation Commission's April meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Video Surveillance:

- M. Neff has reviewed the cameras and connectivity to the Park and Recreation Department's monitors
- Presently there are no cameras visible on the Department's monitors and some cameras have become obsolete and will require replacement

Review of Park and Recreation Policies and Procedures:

- A motion was made by J. Mendez, seconded by M. Sutyla to table the review of the Park and Recreation Policies and Procedures until their April meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Beach Concession Stand:

- Noted the concession stand is a service not a business
- Commissioners discussed how the stand should be operated and the cost and fees involved
- This will be discussed with the Town Manager

New Business:

Co-op Football:

- OSW (Old Saybrook/Westbrook) football approached Clinton to join them
- A meeting is scheduled, at which J. Mendez will present her questions

Boat Racks:

- M. Sutyla presented possible locations, at both the town beach and behind the town hall, to install additional boat racks

Heser's Pond:

- The funds requested to revive Heser's Pond were taken out of the Capital Expenditure budget
- The last study was performed in 2014 and it was intimated that another study would have to be conducted before funds were possibly available to restore Heser's Pond back to a viable pond
 - If the pond's condition is not addressed, the pond will be lost
- This will be discussed with the Town Manager and Town Council

Director's Report:

Basketball:

- Though the season was shortened, it was a good season
- A note thanking Superintendent O'Donnell for the use of the school gyms will be sent

Masking Requirements:

- With the masking requirements being lifted, the Indian River Complex office building will open to Clinton residents to gather here for birthday parties

Field 7 and Field 6:

- Rugby's spring season officially began
 - They are currently using Field 7 and will move to Field 6
- Electrician, David Middleton, will do the final upgrade of the lights on Field 7 and Field 6

Budget:

- The Town Council will meet on March 2nd to finalize the budget
- A public hearing will be held and the budget then goes to referendum
- There is \$10,400 remaining from the track project which will be reallocated to the repairs needed at the Peter's basketball court
- The press box roof may be an insurance claim with a \$5,000 deductible
 - Town has spent \$1,700 for temporary repairs to this roof
- Asked commissioners to look at the roof on the town beach pavilion and give their opinion about using architectural shingles or a double cover roofing system

Morgan Football Field:

- Half of the Morgan football field will be closed for aeration and overseeding
 - This will impact the rugby schedule
 - Discussed utilizing the Pierson School field

A motion was made by M. Sutyla, seconded by R. Karcich to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Wendy McDermott, Clerk