

NEW FAIRFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
4 Brush Hill Road
New Fairfield, Connecticut 06812
Telephone (203)312-5633 Fax (203)312-5636

REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2023
7:00 pm.
NEW FAIRFIELD COMMUNITY ROOM
MINUTES

Members Present: Sean Loughran (Chairman), Ken Bennett (arrived 7:20pm), Tom Edwards, Gary Remley, Chris Van Steen, and Terra Volpe

Members Absent: Katherina Fostano, Jim Keller, and Mark Lamanna

Town official present: Selectman Tom Perkins and Parks and Rec Director Linda Lull (via phone)

Call to Order- Chairman Sean Loughran called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Chairman's Report

Sean Loughran noted that he attended the workshop sponsored by the Planning Commission regarding the Plan of Conservation and Development. He presented the Planning Commission with an update on the Beach House and explained the need for more indoor space for activities. There was a discussion among members of the commission regarding the possible use of the old Consolidated School for activities. There was a suggestion of asking residents for donations towards capital projects and possibly putting a donation jar at certain events.

Sean Loughran thanked the Public Works Department for their help with the Tree Lighting and the Light Parade.

Public Comment- None

Director's Report

Linda Lull thanked everyone that helped with the Turkey Run and the Light Parade. She spoke of the need for more volunteers for next year.

Seasonal Summer jobs will be posted beginning December 15th. There is still a need for lifeguards. The commission will reimburse anyone that takes the Lifesaving course and works as a lifeguard at the Town Beach. Linda Lull will contact anyone that worked as a lifeguard last summer.

Ken Bennett made a motion to to approve the expenditure of \$2500 to reimburse for lifeguard training (\$500 per person) for anyone that works as a lifeguard at the Town Beach. The reimbursement will be divided in two payments with one in July and one in August. Terra Volpe seconded the motion. - **All in favor**

Kevin Courtney will be returning as the Camp Director. He will contact counselors that worked last summer.

Boat Slip letters will be sent out by the Parks and Rec Department in January.

Town Beach

The rates for Beach passes for the Summer of 2023 were \$95 per family and \$45 per individual. It was decided to keep the rates the same for the Summer of 2024. Day passes for residents will be \$5 per day. The commission voted to charge guests of residents \$5 per day. Parking is free for residents.

Tom Edwards made a motion to change the rate of guests of New Fairfield residents to \$5 per day which is equal to the rate that New Fairfield residents pay per day. Gary Remley seconded the motion- **All in favor**

There was a discussion of the rights of non-residents to use the Town Beach and how this will be affected by the rule no longer allows walk-ins at Squantz Pond. It was noted that 10% of the parking lot must be allotted for non-residents. The charge for non-residents for 2023 was \$10 per person plus \$80 per vehicle to park. It was decided to keep the same rates for the Summer of 2024.

Boat Slips

The cost per season for boat slips is currently \$1700.00. There are approximately 350 residents on the waiting list for boat slips. The cost per season for jet ski slips is \$825 per year.

Terra Volpe made a motion to raise the cost of the boat slips for the 2024 season from \$1700.00 to \$1725.00. Gary Remley seconded the motion- **All in favor**

Terra Volpe made a motion to raise the cost of the jet ski slips for the 2024 season from \$825.00 to \$835.00. Gary Remley seconded the motion- **All in favor**

Summer Camp

The cost for Summer Camp for the Summer of 2023 was \$215 per week including trips. The week of July 4th is prorated for four days. There was a discussion of the number of campers and the schools that are available for the campers to use this summer. Linda Lull will get this information.

Gary Remley made a motion to raise the rate for Summer Camp from \$215 per week to \$220 per week. Tom Edwards seconded the motion. - **All in favor**

Capital Projects

There was a discussion of the following capital projects for upcoming years:

- Beach House
- Gazebo at the Town Beach- Fiscal year 2024-2025
- Playground at the Town Beach- Fiscal year 2025-2026
- Outdoor Cinema equipment- Fiscal year 2025-2026
- Sound system for events- Fiscal year 2026-2027- Selectman Tom Perkins noted that he knows of someone that may be interested in selling sound system equipment and will send information to the commission.
- Replacement of playground equipment for the high school playground

Adjournment- Chris Van Steen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm. Gary Remley seconded the motion. **All in favor**

Received by email on 12/18/2023 @ 8:30 a.m.
by Chrystie M. Bontempo, Asst. Town Clerk, New Fairfield