

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, MARCH 11, 2024
6:00 pm.
NEW FAIRFIELD COMMUNITY ROOM
REVISED MINUTES

Members Present: Sean Loughran (Chairman), Ken Bennett, Jim Keller, Mark Lamanna, and Gary Remley

Members Absent: Tom Edwards, Chris Van Steen, and Terra Volpe

Town official present: Parks and Rec Director Linda Lull

Call to Order- Chairman Sean Loughran called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Public Comment- None

Approval of Minutes- None

Chairman's Report

Field Fees

Sean Loughran noted that the Field Fees Committee met and discussed the cost of the replacement of Rebel track and field. It was noted that the BOE has put \$600,000 in their requested budget for 2024-2025 which will cover approximately half of the replacement cost. The other half will be covered by Field Fees. There was a discussion of how much to charge for Field Fees and how it should be accounted for.

There was a discussion of the cost for upkeep of the pavilion at Rebel turf especially the bathrooms. Currently, the Parks and Rec is paying for cleaning and upkeep, but the BOE has agreed to pay \$4,000 which amounts to approximately 4 months of cleaning. (March-June)

Consolidated School Playground equipment

It was noted that the playground equipment at the old Consolidated location is available for the use at the Town Beach. There was a brief discussion among the Parks and Rec commission, and it was decided that it would be more cost effective to leave the equipment at Consolidated School.

Fence Repair Estimates

There was a discussion of repairs needed to various fences at playgrounds and fields. It was decided to get pictures of what exactly needs to be done and estimates for the approximate cost.

Director's Report

Linda Lull noted that the Community Service Club would like to plant shrubs by the gazebo at Memorial Field. There was a suggestion of informing the Lions Club since they own the gazebo.

Ken Bennett made a motion to have the Community Service Club plant and maintain two Norwegian pines at the gazebo at Memorial Field pending authorization from the Lions Club. Jim Keller seconded the motion. **All in favor**

Outdoor Cinema

Linda Lull noted that three people are needed for the Outdoor cinema crew. There are six events throughout the summer.

Linda Lull noted that the Waterfront Directors are not returning for this summer. She is currently conducting interviews for replacements and are hoping to hire three people. It was recommended that the Waterfront Directors take a Lifeguard Management Class through the Red Cross. The cost of this class is \$120 per person.

Jim Keller made a motion to have the Parks and Rec Commission pay for the Lifeguard Management online course for three Waterfront employees at a cost of \$120 each. Mark Lamanna seconded the motion. **All in favor**

Boat Slip Waiting List

Linda Lull noted that the waiting list for the boat slips is longer than ever. There was a discussion among the commission as to ways to shorten the list. The current practice is that anyone on the list gets a call when a spot is available. If they decline the spot, they are given a second phone call when another spot becomes available. There was a suggestion of charging to be put on the waiting list or not the possibility of forfeiting slips if declined the first time.

Jim Keller made a motion to institute a fee of \$50 for new names on the Boat Slip waiting list effective March 12, 2024. A separate fee of \$50 will be charged to be put on the list again after declining a spot. Current waiting list names will only be charged the \$50 to stay on the list after declining a spot the first time. Ken Bennett seconded the motion. **All in favor**

Executive Session

Gary Remley made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:05 pm to discuss a personnel matter for two employees. Mark Lamanna seconded the motion. **All in favor**

Jim Keller made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 7:15 pm. Gary Remley seconded the motion. **All in favor**

Ken Bennett made a motion to increase the hourly rate of the Parks and Recreation Program Coordinator Jane Stagno from \$21.99 to \$22.74 effective immediately and to increase the hourly rate for Boat Attendant John Horkan from \$16.50 to \$17.25 effective immediately. Gary Remley seconded the motion. **All in favor**

Upcoming Events

Summer Camp will run from Monday, June 24th to Wednesday, July 31st.

The Sip and Stroll will be held on Saturday, May 4th from 4pm to 8pm.

The April 8th Parks and Recreation meeting is cancelled.

Adjournment- Gary Remley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 pm. Ken Bennett seconded the motion. **All in favor**

Received by email on 03/14/2024 @ 2:31 p.m.
by Chrystie M. Bontempo, Asst. Town Clerk, New Fairfield