

Waterford Recreation and Parks Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2023 - 4:30pm
Waterford Community Center

The Recreation and Parks Commission held their regular monthly meeting on March 28, 2023 at the Community Center. Meeting was called to order at 4:31pm by Director Ryan McNamara and a quorum was established.

Members in Attendance: K. Hall, R. Ericson, J. Gregg, N. Scheiber, E. Murphy, L. Beaney, T. Santos

Members Absent: M. Chiappone, S. Elci

Staff: Director R. McNamara, Program Coordinator T. Cieplik

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Motion #1: Made by R. Ericson and seconded by E. Murphy to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2023 special meeting.
So voted 7-0

Correspondence:

- Director McNamara read a letter from Eastern CT Hematology & Oncology (ECHO) requesting use of the Veterans softball field for the day on May 21, 2023 and a letter from Mitchell College requesting use of the Waterford High School pool on May 15, 2023 from 1:30pm-4:30pm.

Motion #2: Made by R. Ericson and seconded by J. Gregg for Eastern CT Hematology & Oncology (ECHO) to use Veteran's Field for their Spring Fling Softball game all day on May 21, 2023 and waive the fee.
So voted 7-0

Motion #3: Made by R. Ericson and seconded by E. Murphy to approve the use of the Waterford High School pool by Mitchell College on May 15, 2023 from 1:30pm-4:30pm and waive the fee.
So voted 7-0

Public Comment:

Jim Auwood; represents the pickleball community. He stated that 8-10K people played pickleball this past year. He attended the meeting in support of pickleball. He also attended the Board of Finance Monday night. Director McNamara stated that the Town's new website has information regarding pickleball in Town.

Staff Reports:

Director McNamara – Steven Elci has resigned from the commission. The final Board of Finance (BOF) meeting was last night (Monday). The BOF had questions regarding the information on electricity: 10-11K was spent in previous years, this year was 2K. Director of Finance is looking into it and will get back to Director McNamara. Shared updates regarding the

budget. Gathering specs for court surfacing repair. A meeting will be held next week to go over CIP's. Jim Erikson will be providing Director McNamara quotes for Pleasure Beach, dog park, and parking lot at Jordan Park House. Town has new website. The Recreation & Parks Department is working on updating and adding information to the site. The Town has a new payroll system; ADP replaced KRONOS. The maintenance department has been working on the fields for the spring season. They were fortunate to have 35 volunteers helping with this effort. Fertilizing program for the Town of Waterford and the Waterford Public Schools. The supplemental wood program is coming to an end. Director McNamara and Program Coordinator Cieplik introduced an idea for a new logo and motto (Play:Relax:Explore)for the Recreation and Parks Department to the commission members. The commission discussed design, color, and format. Director McNamara and Program Coordinator Cieplik will come back to commission with updated format and ideas. The commission continued discussion from their last meeting to swap the pool table and computer rooms in the Community Center for space and accessibility purposes.

Motion #4: Made by N. Scheiber seconded by J. Gregg to approve the two room locations to be swapped.

So voted 7-0

Program Coordinator Cieplik – One-thousand-dollar grant received from Community Foundation for Eastern CT. One-thousand-dollar grant given to Waterford Ambulance. It will be used for 2 AED's; one at Spera Field and the other at the Little League South/Football field. Working on the Spring Program Booklet, had lunch/networking with the Rotary Club. Easter Egg Hunt will be on April 8. Working on Summer Concert Series. There will be a person that will be working on the sound system at the concerts.

Committee Reports:

Nominating - Commission members signed up for the various committees. Director McNamara has the list. It will be distributed at the next commission meeting. K. Hall left for meeting at 5:10pm

Personnel – going over minimum wage schedule.

Youth Sports Council – waiting to hear back from First Selectman Brule and the Town Attorney regarding usage of Dominion property and it being rented out.

Representative Reports:

Board of Education – None

Board of Finance – None

Historical Society – None

O'Neill Theater – None

Senior Services – None

Properties:

Old Business:

Room changes at Community Center discussed earlier in the meeting.

New Business:

Recruitment: Director McNamara is discussing incentives to recruit new hires. The idea of offering new hires the opportunity to purchase a Town beach pass at the same cost that a Town resident pays.

Motion #5: Made by R. Ericson seconded by E. Murphy that newly hired full time employees have the opportunity to purchase a beach pass at the resident rate.

So voted 6-0

Picnic Tables and trash cans for beaches and Town Hall. Director McNamara showed the commission pictures of trash cans to replace the old trash cans. Commission will discuss further at next meeting.

Motion #6: Made by R. Ericson, seconded by N. Schreiber to adjourn the meeting. So voted 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 5:38pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Traci Santos, Commission Member
Recreation and Parks Commission