



**Waterford Recreation and Parks Commission
April 22nd, 2025 @ 4:30 pm
Waterford Community Center**

The Recreation and Parks Commission held a regular scheduled meeting on April 22nd, 2025 at the Waterford Community Center. Meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Chairman, E. Murphy and a quorum was established.

Members in attendance: E. Murphy, R. Ericson, N. Scheiber, T. Stino, T. Santos, M. Chiappone

Members Absent: M. Sheehan, J. Gregg

Staff: R. McNamara (Director), T. Cieplik (Program Coordinator), E. Sullivan (Office Coordinator)

Other: B. Kyne, L. Wolfley

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Motion by R. Ericson and seconded by N. Scheiber to approve the March 25th, 2025 meeting minutes.

Vote: 6-0-0

Motion: Approved

Public Comment:

Laura Wolfley, Waterford RISE, is looking to use the senior lounge to have a book discussion on One Book, One Region which will be open to the public. They would then like to follow up on the book series thru the summer.

Motion by M. Chiappone and seconded by R. Ericson to approve the use of the senior lounge within working hours of operations thru out the summer.

Vote: 6-0-0

Motion: Approved

Correspondence:

Shaun Donahue submitted a complaint to have some type of safety measure taken for the speeding cars that are picking up and dropping off at the friendship school especially on the senior services side and around the back of the building. Director R. McNamara spoke with Traffic Officer Devine to have speed bumps installed on the side and the curb in the back of the building.

Staff Reports:

Director - R. McNamara - All the courts (Town Hall Basketball and Leary Park Tennis/Pickleball and Basketball) are coming along great. The Eagle Scout projects will take place in the summertime and are picnic tables and repair and replace bat houses. Grooming and prepping ball fields for games and practices of the athletic fields with mowing and painting are in full swing and the Robo painter is a great asset and getting the job done. An electrical trench was dug for the Utilities and Emergency Services for electronic sign on Boston Post Road. FY26 Budget successful defense against BOS and BOF. RTM early May for final budget review. Assistant Director position will be posted the week of 4/27. Aquatic operation review and updates - Molly Podeszwa has been offered the Aquatics Director job. There will be new programming in FY26. There will be a zoom meeting on 4/29 to discuss the CityData software for park usage and tracking. Budget forecasting looks promising this year but will have a few transfers towards the end of the FY. Beach sticker sales online started on 4/1 and in house sticker sales will be 5/1. Beach opens on 5/24 weekends and holiday and 6/21 begins the full operations with lifeguards. Athletic field rental discussion with Health & Recreation sub-committee of RTM - will be proposing a new revenue stream for youth sport organization complex clean up. Developing bench and picnic table plan throughout the Civic Triangle, Waterford Beach Park, and Leary to submit for use of Waterford's alcohol nip revenue fund. Plans will be submitted to the First Selectman for approval. There will be a ceremony at the War Park recognizing Memorial Day on Friday, May 23rd at 6 pm.

Project Coordinator:

T. Cieplik - Summer hires are underway and interviews will begin the week of April 28th. There seemed to be less applications this year. The BOE has informed us that Aquatics and Pool will be closed for a month beginning May 22nd for about a month for annual maintenance and fixing a leak. The Easter Egg Hunt was a fantastic turnout with over 4,000 eggs and prizes -the golden ticket idea for a special prize was well received. The August parade meetings have begun and planning is in the works. Summer Concert series are lined up and we are focusing on sponsorships to target at 30K to cover the costs. T. Cieplik will email out the sponsorship packet to the commission members.

Committee Reports:

Personnel - Assistant Director position will be posted week of 4/27.

Youth Sports Council - Fields are getting ready for the spring season - T. Stino has offered to be the representative for the Youth Sports Council in place of L. Beaney.

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Long Range Planning - no update

Policies and Procedures - These are moving forward - R. McNamara, T. Santos and E. Murphy meet prior to the committee meeting and go thru page by page and update the commissions policy and procedures.

Representative Reports:

Board of Education - No update

Board of Finance - B. Tuneski shared that R. McNamara did a great job with the organizational budget.

Historical Society - No update

O'Neill Theater - R. Philips has left and Emma Brown will be the new contact. T. Santos thought we should get a room to meet for one of our meetings at the O'Neill.

Senior Services - No Update

Adjournment:

Motion by R. Erricson and seconded by T. Stino to adjourn the meeting at 5:08 pm.

Vote: 6-0-0

Motion: Approved

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Sullivan

Recreation and Parks Commission