



STEVE PIERCE
Director

SCOTT KIERAS
Assistant Director

JIM LEWICKI
Program Coordinator

BEVERLY HODGE
Administrative Secretary

Wilton Parks and Recreation Commission

January 13, 2016

Present: Chairman Mark Ketley, Commissioners Joe Burke, Sarah Gioffre, Jennifer Kendra, Kevin O'Brien, Parks and Recreation director Steve Pierce, and Parks Superintendent Doug Katz. Also in attendance were Brooke Furst and William Patty. The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm.

Minutes

Kevin O'Brien made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2015 meeting. Joe Burke seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Recreation Report

Steve reported they are reviewing they Parks and Recreation (P&R) Spring 2016 brochure which will be mailed to residents and posted on Parks and Recreation website.

Steve discussed that P&R would like to improve the existing website and leverage social media to promote programs and facilitate communication to residents. He has identified three potential computer software systems for P&R. He also presented goals for social media usage as prepared by Joe Burke. He will discuss these proposals with Town Hall.

Rec basketball is running with approximately 800 kids participating.

Mark Ketley reported that the Comstock renovation project is on schedule and under budget. Project scheduled to be completed in early February 2016.

Parks and Grounds Report

Replacement of the stadium turf. After reviewing proposals and pricing of three vendors, Steve Pierce made a recommendation to replace the Fujitani Field stadium turf with GeoFill, an organic turf fill, made by Shaw Sports Turf. Jennifer Kendra made a motion to approve recommendation. Kevin O'Brien seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0. Steve Pierce will review the recommendation with the Board of Selectmen.

Track replacement. Steve presented three options: 1) Cover with overlay, 2) Remove down to asphalt and replace with new surface, or 3) Remove down to asphalt, grind, and replace with new surface. The group discussed three options and that timing of work would be dependent on turf replacement project. Steve to discuss further with Lynne Vanderslice, First Selectman.

Field Usage. Steve reported all field usage documents for fall of 2015 have been sent to Town Hall.

Budget. Steve presented the 2017 Parks and Recreation Budget. He will be meeting with Town Hall this week to begin review process.

Equipment. Doug Katz presented his request for three new pieces of equipment: 1) Dump Truck, 2) Quad tractor, and 3) Toro Cart. These items have been included in the 2017 P&R Budget proposal; they are part of operating capital, not bonded capital.

Merwin. Mark Ketley made a recommendation to change the Merwin Meadows admission policies as follows:

- Residents will be admitted for free;
- Non-residents will be able to purchase a daily pass at Comstock (eliminating all point of sale passes at Merwin) for \$10 adult and \$5 for children;
- Non-resident season passes will also be sold at Comstock for \$120 per family (capped at 50 non-resident passes per season).



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Sarah Gioffre made a motion to approve Mark's recommendation. Joe Burke seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Mark Ketley and Steve Pierce met with Planning and Zoning to review the proposal for replacing the playground at Merwin Meadows. They will next meet with Inlands and Wetlands.

Public Comments

William Patty presented a letter to the Commission regarding West Facing Athletic Field Lights at Middlebrook School and asked the commission to review. Steve Pierce said he would review and follow up with Mr. Patty.

Brooke Furst asked how fields are assigned/used by high school vs. non high school teams. Steve Pierce explained the procedure for field assignments/usage.

Jennifer Kendra made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Joe Burke seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0. The Parks and Recreation meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Gioffre
Commissioner

