

STEVE PIERCE
Director

SCOTT KIERAS
Assistant Director

JIM LEWICKI
Program Coordinator

BEVERLY HODGE
Administrative
Secretary

Wilton Parks and Recreation Commission
Field Usage Subcommittee
January 26, 2017

Present: Jennifer Kendra, Commissioner & Subcommittee Chair; Chris Skillin, Community Representative; Kevin Ring Community Representative.

Absent: Kevin Ring, Community Representative; Chris McDougal Board of Education Representative; Steve Pierce, Director Parks & Recreation; Taraleigh Masterson, Board of Education Representative (excused absences).

Members of public

I. Call to Order

Jennifer Kendra called the meeting to order at 7:36 pm.

II. Approval of Minutes of October 26, 2016 meeting

Jennifer Kendra motioned to approve the minutes from the October 26th meeting, seconded by Chris Skillin. Motion was approved 2-0-0.

III. Correspondence

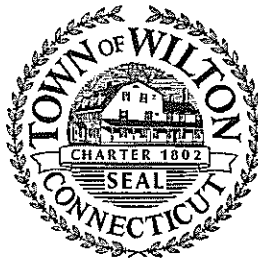
None

IV. Action/Discussion

V. New Business

a. Review of Results of Questionnaire to Field User Groups:

The Field Usage Sub Committee submitted a survey to key contacts at organizations that utilize the Wilton field run by Parks and Recreation. The list of organizations which were



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contacted were identified by Steve Pierce, Parks and Recreation Director, based on current field usage and known potential usage identified by field inquiry to his office.

The survey was sent and responses were received by Steve Pierce between November 2016 and January 2017. Follow up conversations also happened with groups in order to sort more clarity and details on responses to avoid wrongful interpretation of answers.

It is important to note that in this round of questioning, due to the nature of the sub committee's responsibility, the survey and focus of this assignment is on fields only but independent commentary indicates a usage study on availability and opportunities around existing and creation of new indoor space should be considered.

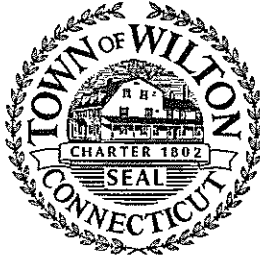
Response Overview

All eleven organizations that were sent the survey responded. For clarity, this list included:

- 1) Wilton Little League- Baseball
- 2) Rugby (Independent Group, no current field usage)
- 3) Gold Coast Lacrosse
- 4) Wilton Lacrosse
- 5) Wilton Field Hockey
- 6) Wilton High School
- 7) Wilton Baseball Softball Association
- 8) Wilton Little League – Softball
- 9) Micky Kydes Soccer
- 10) Wilton Youth Football
- 11) Wilton Soccer Association

The initial inquiry netted good basic data on number of participants per program as well as how organizations manage current field assignments and time slots allocated to them. The group identified clear gaps in information needed to assess field resources. They are the following:

- The number of teams that operate on each field during each allotted time slot
- Is current structure of games and practices optimal for each organization– example, is running 3 teams on one field at one time optimal for the program with regard to development in the sport or player experience?



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- Are organizations able to offer the number of practices or games optimal for each program?
 - What are needs for each organization in the off-season for those programs that play all year or desire to train full year?
 - For groups who identify issues of overcrowding, are there concerns for injury due to overcrowding?
 - What is the optimal surface per organization? Is current allocations of this surface optimal for each program? If no, what would be considered optimal?

P&R Related Questions:

- Information from Steve Pierce on wear and tear issues for each field each season
- Add data from P&R programs including Ancient Warriors and other programs serving either Wilton residents (Adult softball leagues) or non-residents (Special Olympics)
- Were there Wilton-based or other organizations turned away due to lack of field resources?
- Outline fields that have restrictions – examples Ambler (one game at a time due to parking shortage even though there are 2 usable fields) and Maderas (significant water drainage issues).
- Document number of days per season grass fields are closed for play and reasons why

Next steps:

- Develop list of additional questions to address the above
 - Interview each organization to gather the additional feedback and data needed
 - Develop a chart/grid to visually map usage
- b. Relook at future sub-committee meeting schedule to adjust for participant conflicts
- c. Plan joint meeting with Field Location Committee

VI. Old Business

VII. Public Comment



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- None

VIII. Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn by Chris Skillin, seconded by Jennifer Kendra. Approved 2-0-0.
Meeting was adjourned at 8:48pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Kendra
Commissioner, Sub-Committee Chair