

MINUTES
Wilton Parks & Recreation Commission
January 13, 2021 / 7:30 PM
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Attendees:

- a) Commissioners: Bilella, Guglielmo, Kendra, Macken, Ring
- b) Director of P&R: Pierce
- c) Ex Officio: None
- d) Public: Scott Lawrence (guest presenter), JR Sherman (guest presenter), Jason Partenza, Lily Kepner (representing Good Morning Wilton)

- I. Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Chairperson Bilella at 7:32 PM.
- II. Approval of Minutes for December 9, 2020 – Motion made by Macken to approve, seconded by Guglielmo. **Approved 5-0-0.**
- III. Correspondence – discussion and/or action
 - No correspondence.
- IV. Indoor Field House Project Concept (Guests – JR Sherman & S. Lawrence) – discussion and/or action
 - Conceptual presentation by S. Lawrence and JR Sherman regarding potential development of an indoor field house in Wilton. Discussion ensued regarding need, timing, potential locations, possible design. Request for the Commission to consider supporting further exploration of this concept, where P&R Dept would assist Lawrence and Sherman as needed. Motion made by Macken for P&R Dept to support the exploration of the concept, seconded by Kendra. **Approved 5-0-0.**
- V. COVID-19 Updates – discussion and/or action
 - Pierce provided that CIAC approved training this week for winter sports based on CT Department of Public Health (“DPH”). Town is awaiting guidance and details from DPH to determine next steps as to winter sports and programming in Town.
- VI. Park Benches/Potential Offering Update – discussion and/or action
 - Guglielmo presented update on bench proposal. Pierce advised that Environmental Affairs covers benches and already has defined criteria, costs, location options, etc. This offering idea will be explored further with Environmental Affairs by Pierce and Guglielmo.
- VII. Dog Park Exploration Update – discussion and/or action
 - Pierce advised that he reached out to a State Representative Will Haskell’s Office for an update. A representative of Haskell’s Office informed Pierce that he/she spoke with DOT and the State is not accepting any leases, because the State is performing a study of all state-owned properties. Pierce reported that previously when a dog park was proposed, there were no Town properties identified as fitting for such.

VIII. Wilton Track – discussion and/or action

- Track Replacement Efforts Update – Pierce provided an update on track replacement. Pierce noted that our document is now with the National Bid Board. Proposal for April date for track work to begin if no spring sports or in June if spring sports are not cancelled.

IX. Fiscal Year Budget – discussion and/or action

- Pierce presented draft of P&R Operating Budget, P&R Self Sustaining Budget, P&R Operating Capital Budget, and Bonded Capital Budget. Discussion regarding pathway lighting proposal for budget. Lightning detection system budget costs discussed. Operating budget up approximately 1.6% - mostly attributable to salary and benefit increases. Pierce to meet with First Selectwoman for review on January 14.

X. Staff Reports – discussion and/or action

- Parks & Grounds – Pierce informed Commission that brush is being trimmed around fields to reduce encroachment and standard clean-up in progress.
- Recreation Report – Pierce updated the Commission on the Holiday Drive-thru that took place in December at Comstock, which received positive feedback. Spring brochure being created now.

XI. Member Comment – None.

XII. Public Comment – None.

XIII. Adjourn – Guglielmo moved to adjourn the meeting, Kendra seconded. **Approved 5-0-0.**
Meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM.