

MINUTES
Wilton Parks & Recreation Commission
February 10, 2021 / 7:30 PM
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Attendees:

- a) Commissioners: Bilella, Guglielmo, Kendra, Ring
- b) Director of P&R: Pierce
- c) Ex Officio: None
- d) Public: Heather Border Herve (representing Good Morning Wilton)

Absent:

- a) Commissioners: Macken

I. Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Commissioner Bilella at 7:32 PM

II. Approval of Minutes for January 13, 2021 – Motion made by Ring to approve, seconded by Guglielmo. **Approved 4-0-0** (Macken absent).

III. Correspondence – discussion and/or action

Pierce received two:

- Correspondence from Mike Papale of In a Heartbeat Foundation regarding an AED donation – will be discussed when we get to agenda item X.
- Correspondence from WHS AD, Chris McDougal, regarding his support of a lightening detection system – will be discussed when we get to agenda item VI.

IV. COVID-19 Updates – discussion and/or action

- Pierce gave an update on sports and spring programming considering COVID. Youth sports associations received an email regarding what is permissible right now and plans from associations will continue to need the Director of Health's approval before any programs start.

V. Wilton Track – discussion and/or action

- Track Replacement Efforts Update – Pierce updated the Commission that contract will soon be ready for approval by Counsel and First Selectman's Office. Bilella and Pierce presented the pricing and BTT donation (\$80,500) at BOS meeting last week. Pierce reported that track cost with both Alternatives 1 & 2 (blue track with grey D zones and grey exchange zones) will be approximately \$974K, which well under the \$1.2M budget. Savings is \$200K+ and a BTT donation of \$80,500 equating to approx. \$300K of savings to the Town versus original budget. Tentative start date is April 1, 2021 and this will be pushed to May/June presuming spring sports take place. Completion is expected to be in late August.
- Donation from Back the Track – Pierce thanked BTT and reported that the organization has donated \$80,500.

VI. Lightening Detection System – discussion and/or action

- Pierce provided an update regarding the inclusion of all fields (31 fields in 10 locations) within the lightening detection system. The revised costs now cover all 10 locations (Allen's Meadow, Comstock, Lilly Field, Fujitani Field, Merwin Meadows, Middlebrook, Miller-Driscoll, Lion's Field, Georgetown/Landmark, and Amber Farm) totaling 31 fields in the Town. Steve advised that the Fujitani Field location will cover the tennis courts, softball fields, baseball fields and Cider Mill. Pierce and Bilella shared cost details, \$4,083 one-time fee for first year set-up, and an annual cost of \$10,910 with a 10-year commitment. Total annual cost per field = \$352. Total one-time initial set-up cost per field = \$132. Pierce shared that the WHS AD sent a correspondence stating he sees real benefit in this system from a safety perspective for the HS athletic program. Ring made a motion for the Parks & Rec Commission to move forward with recommending that the BOS consider proceeding with the lightening detection system as proposed. Kendra seconded the motion. **Approved 4-0-0** (Macken absent).

VII. Indoor Field House Project Concept Exploration Update – discussion and/or action

- Pierce reported that Stantec provided a quote to perform a preliminary analysis of costs for a possible indoor field house at Comstock. The fee provided to Pierce for the analysis was \$45K. Pierce to request better pricing from Stantec for such review.

VIII. Park Benches/Potential Offering Update – discussion and/or action

- Guglielmo gave an update on discussions had with the Town (Mike Conklin and Liz Lambert) regarding the location and type of new benches. Guglielmo and Pierce to provide an update next month as to the follow-up information (including cost) with Town to then allow for the Commission to decide on whether not to recommend such a donation program to the BOS for its consideration.

IX. Fiscal Year Budget – discussion and/or action

- Pierce is waiting on an annual meeting date to be set for later this month.

X. AED Donation – discussion and/or action

- Pierce shared that a not-for-profit organization, In a Heartbeat Foundation, emailed Pierce stating that it would like to donate a Defibtech Lifeline AED, Alarmed Wall Cabinet, and a Rescue Kit to the Town of Wilton to be placed at the WHS Varsity Baseball Field in honor of George DiRocco. Guglielmo made a motion to approve, Ring seconded the motion. **Approved 4-0-0** (Macken absent). Pierce to share with First Selectwoman.

XI. Staff Reports – discussion and/or action

- Parks & Grounds Report – Pierce advised the team has been focusing on snow removal and putting equipment together for the spring.
- Recreation Report – Pierce reported that there is a full spring/summer brochure in progress. Proposal in progress for a 'pitch, hit and run' activity this spring, as well as several new offerings being planned, including a cornhole league, all which will need the Director of Health's approval. Pierce informed Commissioners that In a Heartbeat Foundation has also offered to provide a program in Town for free ECG testing to all children 10-19 years old prior to them engaging in sports this year. P&R will be working with the organization to set up a program.

XII. Member Comment – None.

XIII. Public Comment – None.

XIV. Adjourn – Ring moved to adjourn the meeting, Kendra seconded. **Approved 4-0-0** (Macken absent). Meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM.

From: [Bilella, AnnaMarie](#)
To: [minutesandagendas](#)
Cc: [Pierce, Steve](#); [Macken, John](#); [Guglielmo, Joseph](#); [Kendra, Jennifer](#); [Ring, Kevin](#)
Subject: Correspondence 1 of 2 to be Posted with P&R Minutes - In A Heartbeat AED Donation
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2021 10:51:51 AM
Importance: High

Correspondence 1 or 2 to be posted with 2/10/21 P&R Commission Minutes.

Thank you.

Anna Marie

From: Pierce, Steve
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:24 PM
To: Bilella, AnnaMarie
Subject: FW: In A Heartbeat AED Donation

FYI The email below is the one referenced in tonight's meeting from Mr. Papale

From: mike@inaheartbeat.org <mike@inaheartbeat.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2021 11:41 AM
To: Pierce, Steve <Steve.Pierce@WILTONCT.ORG>
Subject: In A Heartbeat AED Donation

Hi Steve,

Great talking with you today.

We would like to donate a Defibtech Lifeline AED, Alarmed Wall Cabinet, and a Rescue Kit to the Town of Wilton to be placed at the Varsity baseball field.

Please let me know if you have any questions. As soon as I get confirmation from you, I will place the order.

Mike Papale
In A Heartbeat Foundation
Cell: (203) 980-3599
Email: mike@inaheartbeat.org

"Together, we are saving lives!"

From: [Bilella, AnnaMarie](#)
To: [minutesandagendas](#)
Cc: [Pierce, Steve](#); [Macken, John](#); [Ring, Kevin](#); [Kendra, Jennifer](#); [Guglielmo, Joseph](#)
Subject: Correspondence 2 of 2 to be Posted with P&R Minutes - Lightning Detection System
Date: Thursday, February 11, 2021 10:53:06 AM
Importance: High

Correspondence 2 or 2 to be posted with 2/10/21 P&R Commission Minutes.

Thank you.

Anna Marie

From: Pierce, Steve
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:22 PM
To: Bilella, AnnaMarie
Subject: FW: Lightning Detection System

The following is the email referenced in tonight's meeting from Mr. McDougal

From: Chris McDougal <mcdougalc@wiltonps.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 12:43 PM
To: Pierce, Steve <Steve.Pierce@WILTONCT.ORG>
Subject: Lightning Detection System

Hello Steve,

It is my understanding that Parks and Rec is looking into a lightning detection system again. This would greatly benefit the High School athletic program, especially for the teams that are far away from the school, (teams playing and practicing out at Allens Meadow, tennis courts etc.). This would give teams and coaches the advanced warning they need to get back to the high school for safety.

If I can help in any way please let me know.

Stay Safe!

Chris McDougal, CAA
Athletic Director
Wilton Public Schools
203-762-0381 ext.6287

