

MINUTES
Wilton Parks & Recreation Commission
January 8, 2020
Comstock Community Center

Attendance:

- Commissioners: Bilella, Macken, Kendra, Ring
- Director of P&R: Pierce
- Ex-Officio: None
- Public: None

Absent:

- Commissioners: Guglielmo

I. Bilella called to order at 7:41 pm.

II. Approval of Minutes for December 11, 2019. Motion made to approve minutes. Vote taken and **Approved 4-0-0** (Guglielmo absent).

III. Correspondence – discussion and/or action

- Pierce provided a summary from Joe Bear's correspondence that is requesting actively restoring and maintaining the meadow portion of Allen's Meadow by eradicating non-native and invasive weeds and replacing them with native meadow/pollinators, as well as creating an Eastern Bluebird Trail.
- Motion made to approve once it is reviewed by the meadow expert that P&R uses. Vote taken and **Approved 4-0-0** (Guglielmo absent).

IV. On-going Business – discussion and/or action

- Schenck's Island Merwin Meadows Committee – a short summary document was created as an update by SIMM Committee Rep, John Priest, and was sent to Pierce on January 8, 2020. Summary provided to the Commissioners at the meeting. Pierce lead discussion around both sites. Merwin Meadows – Pierce shared that P&R views some priority projects as follows: playground improvements, bath house improvements, parking area/entrance enhancements for safety, and adding a pickle ball court. Schenk's Island – Pierce advised that keeping a naturalized state when adding performance area/stage, meadow area, trails and play area is viewed as important from his department. Storage to be reviewed and enhanced holistically between both sites.
- Wilton Athletic and Recreation Foundation Update - None

V. Wilton Track – discussion and/or action

- Track Replacement Efforts Update – Two firms responded to the Town's RFQ/P out of four firms that the bid was sent to. Responses under review and interviews with the two firms will be done next week. Timeline remains the same.

VI. July 4th Merwin Meadow Park Access – discussion and/or action

- Pierce informed the Commission that P&R is exploring the idea of permitting only season passholders and their guests access to the park on July 4th. The Commission agreed it makes

sense to try this new admission model in 2020 to manage the overcrowding the park has experienced in the past.

VII. P&R Draft Budget – discussion and/or action

- Pierce presented a draft and walked the Commission through the highlights on variances.

VIII. Staff Reports – discussion and/or action

- Parks & Grounds Report – Piece gave an update that staff started to take the mower decks and all equipment apart and start maintenance for next season.
- Recreation Report – Basketball is the focus with the season in full swing.

IX. Member Comment – None.

X. Public Comment – None.

XI. Adjourn – Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:01 pm. Vote taken and **Approved 4-0-0** (Guglielmo absent).