

AGENDA
Wilton Parks & Recreation Commission
May 11, 2022 / 8:00 PM
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Attendees:

- A) Commissioners: Bilella, Macken, Kendra, Guglielmo, Ring
- B) Director of P&R: Pierce
- C) Ex Officio: None
- D) Public: Frank Smeriglio (guest speaker/Town's Director of DPW and Town Engineer)

- I. Call to Order – Bilella called the meeting to order at 8:03pm.
- II. Approval of Minutes for March 9, 2022 - Kendra made a motion to approve, Macken seconded.
Approved 5-0-0.
- III. Correspondence – discussion and/or action
 - Pierce shared an email he received on April 4, 2022, from Tom Viggiano regarding WHS Softball and its field conditions including lining. Pierce shared that the AD/WHs is presently responsible for chalking/lining fields outside of all painted lines (which P&R manages). P&R is responsible for all field maintenance. Bilella recommended this be part of a larger conversation with the new AD when P&R/Bilella and the new AD meet in the coming month to discuss a go-forward holistic plan based on input, staffing, and budget realities.
- IV. Mitigation Plan Update (Frank Smeriglio) – discussion and/or action
 - Smeriglio provided and walked the Commission through a presentation (that was given to the BOS) on the mitigation review and efforts. Smeriglio shared the three options, necessary maintenance, pond dredging, all associated cost estimates, as well as the Town's funding request details. Discussion by Commissioners took place with the group in agreement that Option 3 is the most prudent option for long term planning.
- V. Potential Master Plan of Amenities Proposed at BOS Meeting (4/6) – discussion and/or action
 - Discussion about the proposal by Rick Tomasetti at BOS meeting on April 6, 2022 was had by Commissioners. The Commission agreed that the plan should include all amenities, inclusive of recreational amenities. The group supports the Amenities Plan proposal if the Town supports it with action and economics, and progress continues with P&R projects and requests currently being reviewed by BOS. Macken raised the topic of P&R staffing and shared his concern that the department is understaffed to enhance even current facilities and did not see how the department would be able to accommodate any additional work/facility coverage without more staff being added.
- VI. Lightening Detection System Update – discussion and/or action
 - System installation is complete. P&R working on reducing decibel level of alarm/alert at fields; notification system is ready to be activated. Notification system will be a sign-up system that residents can subscribe to, and the system will send email and text alerts. System is planned to go live week in the next week. Bilella requested all P&R Commissioners be added as a subscriber within the notification system. All Commissioners supported this.

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

- No further movement yet; expect comments to be sent to Stantec in the near term related to the last draft report. Since the start of this review, SONO Field House has been sold and the new owners plan to reduce the existing three turf fields to just one. Further punctuates the need for turf and year-round indoor facilities with the continue increase in demand in the area.

VIII. Staff Reports – discussion and/or action

Pierce reported:

- Parks & Grounds Report:
 - Two new FTE added, equaling six total department staff.
 - Hiring of seasonal help taking place right now - four in total to be hired
 - Department staff will be tracking all hours spent per task to clearly define scope of all work and to become more effective and efficient in its efforts
- Recreation Report:
 - Carnaval at Miller Driscoll this weekend.
 - Strong program sign-ups, best in the past couple years.
 - July 4th fireworks are confirmed for this year.
 - Pickleball lines added to tennis courts at Middlebrook for use outside of school hours.
 - P&R bought staging from Taylor Rental Company (they are closing), which will save in future rental fees.
 - There will be hot dogs at Merwin Meadows after Memorial Day Parade.

IX. Member Comment – None.

X. Public Comment – None.

XI. Adjourn – Bilella made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 pm, Macken seconded.

Approved 5-0-0.