

MINUTES
Wilton Parks & Recreation Commission
May 8, 2019
Comstock Community Center

In Attendance:

Commissioners: Kendra, Bilella, Guglielmo
Director of Parks and Recreation: Pierce

Absent:

Commissioners: Brown, Macken
Ex officio, First Selectman Representative: Clune

- I. Call to Order 8:06 by Chairwoman Bilella
- II. Approval of Minutes for April 10, 2019 – **Approved 3-0-0** (Brown and Macken absent)
- II. Correspondence
 - WBSA sent forth a request to Pierce to design and install an equipment storage shed for the Wilton High School's JV baseball field. Pierce will ask WBSA to present their design and proposed location details to the Commission next month. This would be a gift to the Town and cost to design and install will be fully covered by the WBSA.
 - An email was received inquiring about trash cans at Comstock and other fields in town to prevent any litter. Both our First Selectwoman and Pierce provided responses to the Wilton community member providing details about the state law on recycling, Wilton's P&R review and pilot that was performed, and the current recycling procedures in town that P&R manages as part of its oversight and daily operations.
 - A representative from Sound Cyclists advised of the organization's desire to create a more permanent place for the youth of Wilton to practice safe bicycling skills as part of the effort to promote free play after the organization's recent Bicycle Rodeo held at Miller Driscoll (April 6, 2019). The representative has met with Pierce and the proposed action is under review with Pierce. Next step is for Pierce to bring the proposal to the Commission, once his open questions are answered.
- IV. Wilton Track – discussion and/or action
 - Track Study Update – Defined repairs were performed week of April 15 by Nagle Athletic Services and was ready for WHS' April 22 first home Track meet. Pierce addressed additional repairs on edge of track outside of Lane 1 the week of May 5 and will work with a local third-party surface company to address any additional cracks and necessary patching or repairs, including the seam between the existing track and newly replaced surfaced area at the finish line. Track replacement in 2020 remains an expectation.
- V. POCD Process – discussion and/or action
 - Pierce advised he received an updated version of the POCD and he will forward to all P&R Commission members. Will seek update from Macken at June meeting.
- VI. Staff Reports – discussion and/or action

- Parks & Grounds Report
 - Rain has caused multiple days of field closures and P&R staff working diligently to keep all fields open and in good condition.
 - Miller Driscoll baseball field had some damage from the Carnival held last weekend at the school. P&R staff is repairing the field to ensure it is operational. PTA will be advised of the damage.
 - Ambler and Allen's 4 fields needed repairs from holes. Repairs performed/completed by P&R staff this week.
- Recreation Report
 - A high-quality candidate was identified for the open position, and the Town is close to hiring to fill this vacancy.
 - Summer and seasonal staff hiring is done and will start work in the near term.
 - WHS senior intern starts on May 20 and will be focused on social media marketing and advancement for the department. New Town website is providing a better platform for P&R information to be easily obtained.
 - Annual Dial-a-Ride grant is in process (Pierce overseeing application/paperwork)
 - Expanded community gardens are ready for use along with two new compost areas.
- Ambler Farm Parking Lot Review
 - Blades & Goven provided Pierce with pricing for the two most desirable/effective (of the four) options, which were between \$226K -\$280K per option. Options shared with First Selectwoman by Pierce. The cost is very prohibitive considering the current economic state; therefore, alternatives would need to be looked at.

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

- Update on Schenk's Island Merwin Meadows Committee
 - Second public meeting was held at Comstock on April 28 and was well attended, and good feedback was received.
 - Poster boards from the event with schematics and design details are now on display at Comstock and the Wilton Library for additional feedback from residents.
- Wilton Athletic and Recreation Foundation Update
 - April 27 WARF-sponsored college LAX event at Memorial Stadium was a success with over 1,000 attendees and live game coverage by media outlets. Feedback was excellent from college participants, vendors and event attendees.
 - A meeting with WARF and BOS to restart the discussions around the possibility of a private/public turf project for North Field will be set up in the near term.

VIII. Member Comment - None

IX. Public Comment - None

X. Adjourn – Motion to adjourn at 9:06 PM - **Approved 3-0-0** (Brown and Macken absent)