

MINUTES
Special Meeting
Wilton Parks & Recreation Commission
October 20, 2021 / 7:30 PM
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Attendees:

- a) Commissioners: Bilella, Guglielmo, Ring, Macken (Late – arrived at 7:50 PM)
- b) Director of P&R: Pierce
- c) Ex Officio: None
- d) Public: None

Absent:

- a) Commissioners: Kendra

I. Call to Order - Bilella called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes for September 8, 2021 – Guglielmo made a motion to approve the minutes, Ring seconded. **Approved 3-0-0** (Kendra and Macken not present).

III. Correspondence – discussion and/or action

- None

IV. Stadium Track and Turf Clean Up & Restoration Update – discussion and/or action

- Pierce reported that all fields are now open. The stadium track and turf field have been cleaned, restored and opened on Thursday, October 14. Infill was added to both turf fields.

V. Lightening Detection System Update – discussion and/or action

- Pierce shared that they are finalizing the logistics to install the system, and it will be installed by the end of November. Communication to the public will go out once the system installation is completed and ready for use.

VI. Town's Tennis Courts Information Gathering – discussion and/or action.

- The Town received 404 survey responses. Of the 404, only 24 or 5.94% responded that they rarely or never were able to find a court when they wanted to play. Based on this and the responses, the Commission does not believe change is warranted at this time. However, the Commission recommended that P&R keep an eye on the usage in the spring. Pierce advised that the Town's four new Middlebrook tennis courts (no lights) are targeted to open in Spring 2022, and he anticipates the addition of these courts will provide even greater availability for residents.

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

- Survey work completed. Geotech report in progress. Concept plan to be completed next week. Pierce advised that the review will not be done in time for this project to be included in the January 2022 Special Town Meeting. Ring asked if traffic study was being done; Pierce responded that current feasibility study does not include a traffic study, but that a traffic study, along with other needed studies would be performed if project proceeds. Bilella

commented that Stantec is also reviewing inclusion of any drainage from this project as part of holistic stadium area mitigation plan that they are creating for the Town.

VIII. Youth Sports Associations Meeting – discussion and/or action

- Pierce shared that a Zoom meeting with all youth sports associations, P&R, and the High School AD will occur on Thursday, October 21 at 8:00 PM. Pierce advised that the plan is to discuss field use, storage, allocation of field time, enhancing communication across groups, and any concerns the various associations may have.

IX. P&R Project Priority Planning – discussion and/or action

- Pierce advised that the First Selectman requested that the Commission recommend a list of priority projects for future planning consideration. Bilella asked the Commission members to submit to Pierce recommended projects for further discussion by November 1, 2021.

X. Staff Reports – discussion and/or action

Pierce stated:

- Parks & Grounds Report
 - Scarecrows were installed throughout the downtown.
 - Field work being completed for the spring.
 - Fall cleanup in progress.
- Recreation Report
 - Rec basketball evaluations currently in progress.
 - Afterschool program has 23 participants, an increase from last year.
 - Tennis courts at Middlebrook will be coming online Spring 2022.
 - Trunk or Treat scheduled for Friday, October 29.
 - Other upcoming events include: Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 3 and Hayride with Santa on December 10.

XI. Member Comment

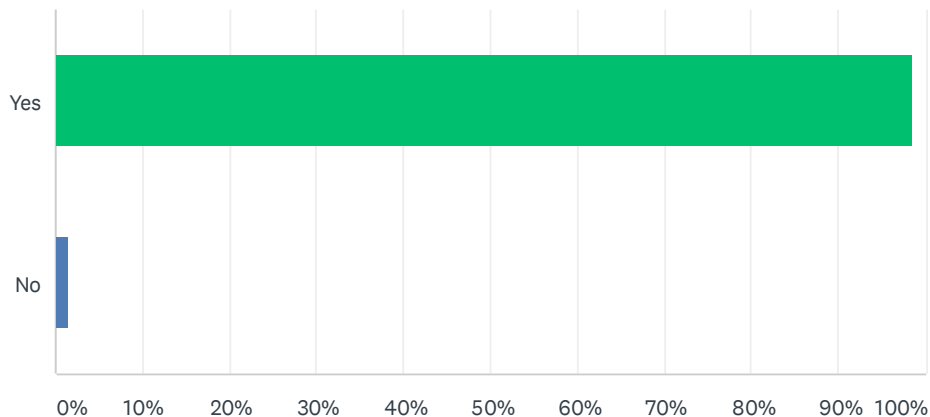
- Macken thanked Pierce for his hard work and tremendous coordination with key vendors to clean and repair the turf and track. Pierce's strong relationships served the Town well.

XII. Public Comment - None.

XIII. Adjourn - Bilella made a motion to adjourn, Ring seconded. **Approved 4-0-0** (Kendra absent). Meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Q1 Are you a Wilton resident?

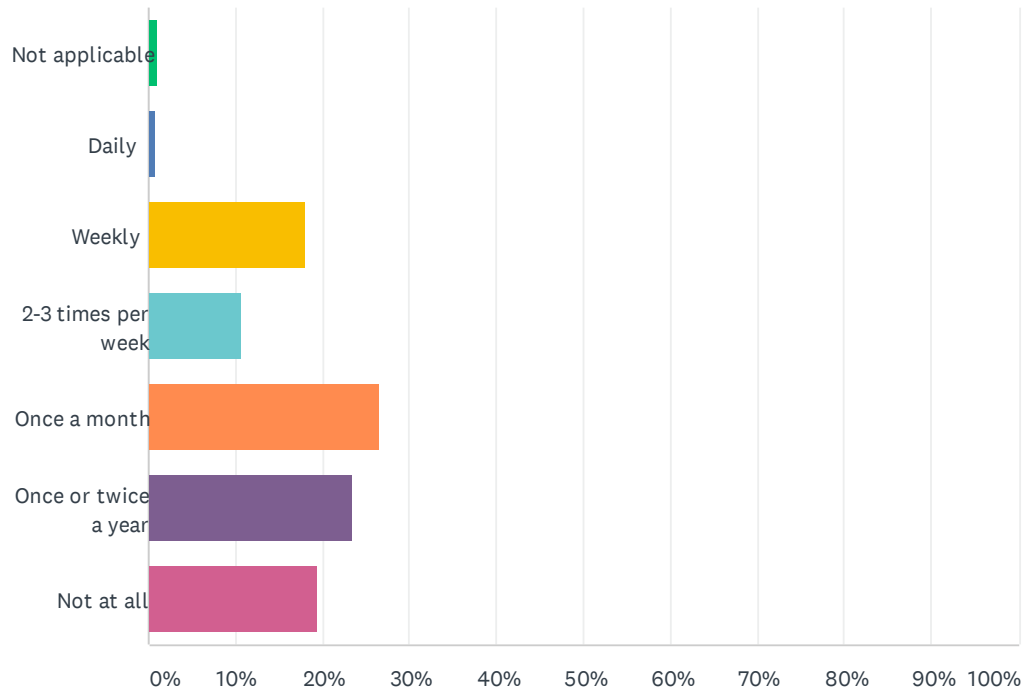
Answered: 404 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	98.51%	398
No	1.49%	6
TOTAL		404

Q2 How often do you use the Wilton High School Tennis Courts?

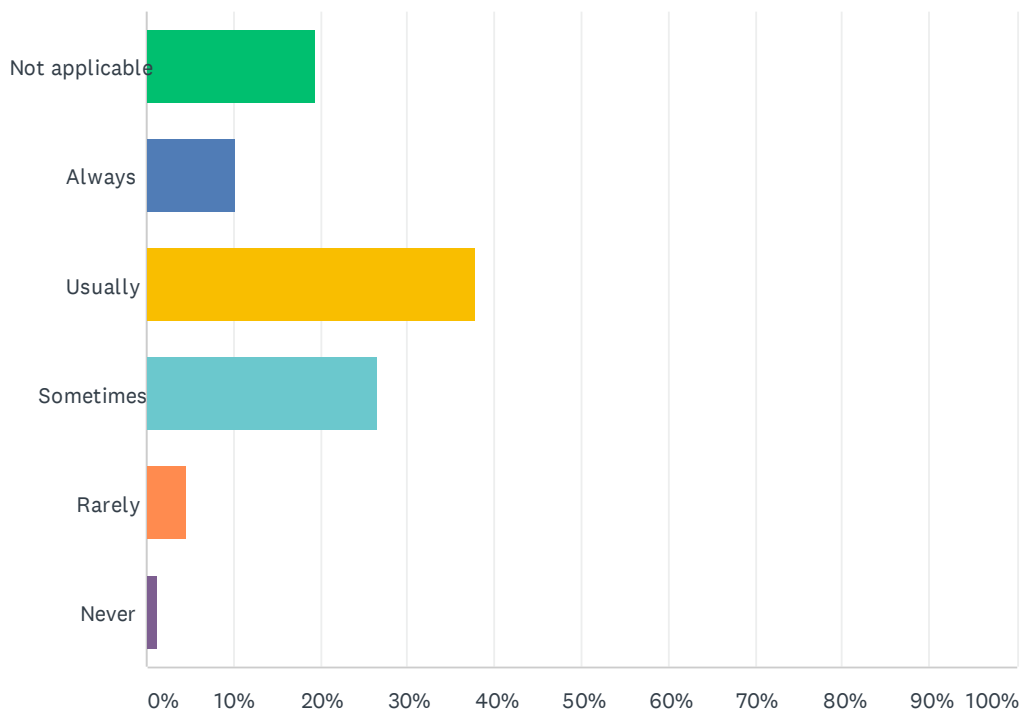
Answered: 404 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not applicable	0.99%	4
Daily	0.74%	3
Weekly	18.07%	73
2-3 times per week	10.64%	43
Once a month	26.49%	107
Once or twice a year	23.51%	95
Not at all	19.55%	79
TOTAL		404

Q3 Are you able to find a court open when you want to play?

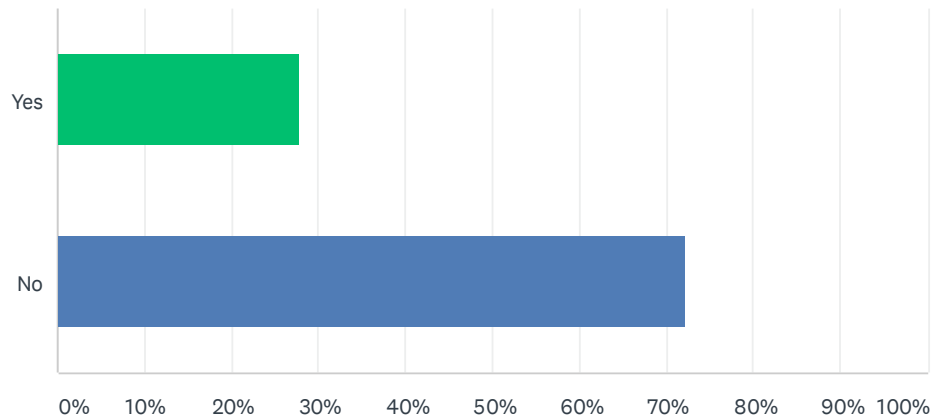
Answered: 404 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not applicable	19.55%	79
Always	10.15%	41
Usually	37.87%	153
Sometimes	26.49%	107
Rarely	4.70%	19
Never	1.24%	5
TOTAL		404

Q4 Would you be interested in an annual fee based system for court access for Wilton residents only?

Answered: 404 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	27.72%	112
No	72.28%	292
TOTAL		404

Q5 What suggestions do you have for improving Wilton High School tennis court usage?

Answered: 266 Skipped: 138