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Orange Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Town Hall Meeting Room– 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 24, 2019

(Unapproved)

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners Present: Chairman Joseph Lembo, Stephen Bospuda, Dave Corris, Chuck Stackpole, and Linda Kantor

Commissioners Absent: James O'Connor and James Ronai

Staff: Dan Lynch, Director of Parks and Recreation; Deborah Satonick, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

- Chairman Lembo called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m., welcoming everyone. He asked the Parks and Recreation Commission members to introduce themselves.

2. PUBLIC DIALOGUE

- There was no public dialogue.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –May 22, 2019

- The Commission members reviewed the May 22, 2019 Parks and Recreation minutes for approval.

Mr. Bospuda made a motion to approve the May twenty-second, 2019 Orange Parks and Recreation Commission meeting minutes. Ms. Kantor seconded the motion, with Mr. Corris abstaining. The motion PASSED.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Questions from the Previous Meeting

- Mr. Lynch advised that he would address all previous questions in his Director's Report.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion with Jim Zeoli, First Selectman

- First Selectman Zeoli spoke briefly on the new software system that has been implemented at Town Hall, allowing taxpayers to pay their taxes online. This software system will soon allow individuals to register and pay for programs that are offered by the Parks and Recreation Department directly on their website. The Parks and Recreation staff will benefit greatly from this new software system.
- Mr. Zeoli also mentioned that the Transfer Station has been receiving excessive amounts of demolition building materials from contractors. With credit card access becoming available at the Transfer Station, Mr. Zeoli is hopeful that the amount of demolition building materials will decrease.
- Lastly, Mr. Zeoli spoke about using the \$300k grant, which was originally earmarked for an exit roadway at Fred Wolfe Park, to construct a barrier free playground at same location. He noted that the playground at Mary L. Tracy is not available to residents during normal school hours and an additional playground is warranted.
- Mr. Zeoli would like to clear seven to eight acres at Fred Wolfe Park to extent the parking lot, built the playground, create an emergency exit out of the park, and still have sufficient clearing for future development. Fred Wolfe Park is approximately 76 acres. Chairman Lembo circulated a site map of this location to show the location of the proposed playground as well as the proposed emergency exit out of the park.
- Mr. Zeoli suggested in the future moving youth soccer from Mary L. Tracy to Fred Wolfe Park and expanding the parking lot behind Town Hall for additional school parking. The Commission members were very receptive to the future development of a playground at Fred Wolfe Park and unanimously agreed that an exit roadway out of Fred Wolfe Park was needed.

B. Grounds and Facilities – Steve Bspuda

- There was no report at this time. Mr. Lynch advised that everything is going well and there are no concerns.

C. Budget

- The Commission members reviewed the two-month budget report and there were no questions or concerns at this time.

D. Personnel

- There was nothing new to report at this time.

E. Director's Report

- Mr. Lynch reported that summer camp and Traveling Teens enrollment is considerably higher than last year. In spite of not having use of the pool, campers are enjoying the water activities being made available during camp. The Parks and Recreation Department now have an air-conditioned bus for the Traveling Teens program.
- Mr. Lynch discussed the construction work of the locker rooms, the pool, and the South Wing. While taking longer than originally anticipated, the South Wing and locker rooms look fabulous. Extra drains are being installed in the pool as well as a valve should future work need to be done beyond the main drain. The pool is expected to reopen sometime the end of August.
- Lastly, Mr. Lynch noted that the 23th Annual Chilly Chili Run was approved for January 1, 2020 to benefit the Amity Teen Center. This is an automatic renewal each year.

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- Chairman Lembo had nothing to add at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Corris moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m., seconded by Ms. Kantor. All were in favor and the motion PASSED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah Satonick,
Recording Secretary