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**Orange Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting**

Town Hall Meeting Room– 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday February 22, 2023

*(Unapproved)*

**ATTENDANCE**

**Commissioners Present:** Chairman James O'Connor, Deborah Davis, Stephen Bspuda, Jack Pritchard, Dan Zapatka, and Dave Corris

**Commissioners Absent:** Chuck Stackpole, William Nicoletti, and James Ronai

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

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- Chairman O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. and asked the members to introduce themselves.

**2. PUBLIC DIALOGUE**

- There was no public dialogue.

**3. MINUTES –December 21, 2022**

*Mr. Corris made a motion to approve the December 21, 2022 Parks and Recreation minutes, seconded by Mr. Corris. All were in favor and the motion **PASSED.***

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**4. OLD BUSINESS**

- Mr. Lynch advised that he would address any old business in his Director's Report.

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Grounds and Facilities – Steve Bespuda

- Mr. Bespuda had nothing to report at this time.

### B. Personnel

- Mr. O'Connor had nothing to report at this time.

### C. Budget

- Approximately 65% of the current budget has been expended and everything is on target. Mr. Lynch attended the Orange Board of Finance Budget Workshop on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and is waiting to get their 2023-2024 budget.

### D. Director's Report

- Mr. Lynch covered two months of information in his Director's Report as there was no meeting last month. He welcomed Dan Zapatka to the Commission.
- Mr. Lynch advised that there has been minimal ice skating on the ponds this year due to the warmer temperatures.
- Mr. Lynch discussed the programs offered by the Parks and Recreation Department. Ski Bums went well, and he thanked Ms. VonRabenstein and her staff for a very successful season of skiing. He spoke on the Youth Basketball League and noted that the Fitness Room continues to remain open, having been closed on President's Day.
- Mr. Lynch advised that the staff is being trained on new software that will allow patrons to register online for the Parks and Recreation programs. Mr. Lynch is expecting that this system will be in place for April Camp registration. He thanked Josh and Paul from IT for assisting with this transition.
- Mr. Bespuda advised that no one should be allowed on the fields to allow the grass to root and mature. Mr. Lynch agreed and will mention this to the Police Department as well.
- Mr. Bespuda reviewed the Aquatic Report from January and February with the Commission members.

## 6. Chairman's Report

- Chairman O'Connor gave a brief update on Fred Wolfe Park. He discussed the playground, the development of the fields, parking, entrance and exit issues, traffic, and teams that might use these fields. The playground is currently underway, and safety

continues to remain a priority by everyone. Mr. O'Connor reported that the leased farmland has a two-year lease and the Oakview entrance is wide and safe into the park. A traffic consultant may be hired to review traffic flow into the park and the abutting neighbors will also be consulted for their input. The Fred Wolfe Park Committee will be open to suggestions from all of the organizations that will be using the fields.

- Chairman O'Connor advised that Parks and Recreation pay for the lining and irrigation of all the fields. He added that this department also maintains the mowing of the school properties. Mr. O'Connor feels that these organizations that use our fields should provide their financial documents to Mr. Lynch and should provide in kind services to the town.

## **7. Adjournment**

*Mr. Bspuda made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m., seconded by Mr. Corris. All were in favor and the motion PASSED.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah Satonick,  
Recording Secretary