



ORANGE, CONN.
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
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Orange Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Town Hall Meeting Room– 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday April 26, 2023

Approved

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners Present: Chairman James O'Connor, William Nicoletti, Deborah Davis, and Stephen Bspuda, Chuck Stackpole, and Dan Zapatka

Commissioners Absent: Jack Pritchard 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 7:38 p.m. and asked the members to introduce themselves.

2. PUBLIC DIALOGUE

- There was no public dialogue at this time.

3. MINUTES –February and March 2023

- Commission members reviewed both sets of minutes and made corrections to the February 22, 2023 minutes.

Mr. Corris made a motion to approve the revised February 22, 2023 Parks and Recreation minutes, seconded by Mr. Bspuda. All were in favor and the motion PASSED.

Mr. Bspuda made a motion to approve the March 22, 2023 Parks and Recreation minutes, seconded by Mr. Nicoletti. All were in favor and the motion PASSED.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- Mr. Lynch gave an update on the new online registration system. While it is very user friendly, residents made some errors in using the system. He added that this is to be expected as there is a learning process. He added that the registration lines were shorter due to the new online

system. There is a 3% convenience fee for using a credit card when registering online for the programs.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Grounds and Facilities – Steve Bspuda

- Mr. Bspuda indicated that the work crew is very busy cutting lawns and lining the fields. He asked Mr. Lynch to have Mr. Small fill a large pothole at Turkey Hill.

B. Personnel

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

C. Budget

- The Commission members reviewed the Budget Report and there were no questions at this time.

D. Director's Report

- Mr. Lynch reported that the Orange Board of Finance approved their 2023-2024 proposed budget, including the increase request for field improvements. The Commission expressed their gratitude.
- Mr. Lynch reported that Ms. Middleton is conducting interviews for Camp Counselors for Summer Camp. He reviewed the Programs Report and the Aquatic Report with the Commission members, noting that the Fitness Room and pool memberships renew on July first. April Vacation Camp went well with thirty participants, and he thanked Ms. Middleton for putting together a great week of activities for camp. He also commended Ms. VonRabenstein for running the recertification courses for the school nurses and the OVNA nurses and the three recertification courses for the staff and area guards with expiring certifications. Ms. VonRabenstein is also running a Lifeguard Training course for the new guards.
- Mr. Lynch reported that little league, soccer, and lacrosse have been asked to give a copy of their certificate of insurance and their bank statement to the Parks and Recreation Department to be kept on file. As the Town of Orange pays for the irrigation of all the fields, it is anticipated that the groups that make use of these fields should contribute to their upkeep.
- Fred Wolf Park playground is about 60% completed and looks great. A future study will be done on the property with a more concentrated focus on paved parking lots and additional entrances and egresses. Mr. Bspuda noted that it is important that children do not use the playground with cleats and risk damaging the equipment.
- Mr. Lynch noted that they will be using additional funds to do field improvements. The tennis courts and fencing at Peck Place School will be removed.

6. Adjournment

Mr. Stackpole made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m., seconded by Mr. Corris. All were in favor and the motion PASSED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah Satonick,
Recording Secretary