

## Middlefield Park and Recreation Commission

### MEETING Conducted on ZOOM due to COVID-19

#### Meeting Minutes of the Regular Meeting February 11th, 2021

Meeting Called To order by Chris Hurlbert at 7:08

Members Present:

Chris Hurlbert (Chair), Hannah Malcolm (Park and Recreation Director/Non-Voting member), Frank Wolak (Regular member/Chair), Cindy Sanchez (Regular Member),

**Quorum was met**

Public Comments

None

Approval of Agenda

***Motion to Approve Meeting Agenda***

***By Frank Wolak. Seconded by Cindy Sanchez***

***Vote: Unanimous***

***Motion Carried***

Approval of Minutes from previous meeting

Agenda item not acknowledged by chairman

Finance Report

Hannah Reported the most recent numbers provided by the Finance Department had not changed drastically from last meeting.

Budgeted account: Peckham Park has \$24,322.04. Lake Beseck has \$1,452.97

Capital: \$55,330

General fund account: approximately \$22,858

Old business

Events

Old Home Days- This item was discussed and since there is little indication that it will happen, the board has decided to go forward with a modified event with pandemic precautions. will be decided month to month.

Program Update

Ski Club- Hannah reported that there are nearly 112 people signed up for the club. Powder ridge has also offered a 3 week extension program. 24 people are signed up for the extension program. The director spoke about how pleased she was with this club and its function during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Respectfully Submitted on 2/18/2020 by Hannah Malcolm

Summer Camp- Chris Hurlbert inquired about how the Director envisions this happening. Hannah is 90% sure that this program will happen but asked for suggestions from the board. Chris was nervous about the potential exposure and how there can be less exposure. Chris suggested having small groups. Frank suggested looking into the guidelines provided by the state and going from there. Chris also suggested a plan B to have play dates and activities set up at the park. Hannah was given a take away to have a concrete plan with guidance and suggested best practices to present by the next meeting.

#### Park updates.

Allowance of non-resident beach goers- The commission had discussion about allowing out of town residents specifically Durham residents, to purchase passes for the beach. The commission discussed that this is a service that the town pays for in large part through their taxes. They felt that the reward of a little extra money would not be worth the risk of opening to out of town residents. The commission referenced Lyndon vs Greenwich and the implications of a lawsuit in regard to us exclusively opening up to one town and discriminating against another. It was decided that the passes will remain open to Middlefield and Rockfall residents only and their guests.

AirBNB renters in Middlefield were also discussed. The commission weighed the options of the rights of a guest vs a commercially rented guest. The suggestion was to view an airbnb renter as a "temporary resident" who pays their fee/rent within the town of Middlefield. Airbnb renters will be allowed to purchase a beach pass for \$25 since they are considered "renters". Their pass will last the duration of their stay.

#### New Business

Budget- The Commission tasked Hannah to complete the budget and send it to them to look over. Chris mentioned the potential for a new club to play corn hole. They tasked Hannah into researching the cost and to bring this up at the next meeting.

#### Permits

Little League use of fields. Insurance certificate provided- approved

CT tides use of softball field, batting cages, and 50/70 field. Insurance certificate provided- approved

#### Looking Ahead

#### Final Thoughts

The chairman wanted to recognize the passing of RJ Cabellus who was a great volunteer in Town and was also the town's resident police officer for many years. The commission would like to put a memorial sign by the trolley trail to recognize him for his volunteerism in town. Hannah will find quotes and present them to the commission.

During this discussion Hannah also mentioned that the Tom Rogers sign was also damaged and needs to be replaced. The commission tasked Hannah to look over all of them and present a cost to replace or refurbish the many signs around the park to the board for the budget.

Hannah presented an option of new beach passes rather than the typical business card. She mentioned that the typical business card is very affordable. She provided a few different options such as mirror hangers that are the size of a typical business card.

Adjourn

***No Motion to adjourn. Meeting was dismissed by Chris Hurlburt at 7:45.***