

TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD

Town Hall, 909 FOXON ROAD, NORTH BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT 06471-1290

*Parks and Recreation Commission
STW Community Center
1332 Middletown Avenue, Northford, Ct. 06472*

Tuesday, October 25, 2016 6 P.M.

Minutes

Attending: Brian Lynch, Steven Torino, Karen Ablondi and Victor Palma.

Absent: Michelle Provencher

Also Present: Lauren Munro, Director; George Miller, Town Council and Bill Savastano

Brian Lynch called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

3. Approval of Minutes of September 27, 2016 - Motion made by Steve Torino, second by Victor Palms and accepted.

4. Parks and Fields - Discussion and Action

a. Eagle Scout dog park kiosk - The Eagle Scout Candidate was not present tonight to discuss his project. Fencing is complete, however it came in 30% over budget and the completion of the project may be delayed while waiting for additional funding

b. Memorial/Coulter Field - The infields are being worked on and will be ready for spring. Lauren commented that the Pickle ball courts are being used and Karen said she was by the new grounds and saw that the lights were on and the tennis courts were busy as well as the basket ball and the pickle ball courts.

c. Augur Property - A 14 ft. Christmas tree was donated by the North Branford Rotary Club and installed by Christensen Landscape Services, LLC. It is located in the front of the lot where premier parking has been for the Potato Festival. When asked Lauren said that leveling of the land is up for discussion with the Town Council.

d. Updates - Due to a letter of concern about the safety of North Farms Park trails, the same person wrote a letter of praise and thanks after walking the trails recently and seeing the work that was done to improve the walking trails and promised to spread the good news to other walkers.

5. Potato and Corn Festival - Discussion and Action

a. Updates - The financial report will be finalized for next month's meeting, however looking at the numbers to date things look good, even better than anticipated.

b. Alcohol for Festival sponsor party/Economic Development gathering - The Town Council has approved the request on behalf of the EDC to offer beer and wine at the Sponsor Party the

Thursday night prior to the festival and there is scheduled a Public Hearing on the issue set for November 1st at 7:30.

c. Reappointment - The Town Council has approved the reappointment of Rosanne Krajewski as Potato and Corn Festival Coordinator with a 2.5% raise and she accepted it at the time it was offered to her.

6. Town Sports Organizations - At Northford Park, the front Soccer Field will be off line this coming spring 2017. The back field - Calvo, the one they are using now will come off in the fall 2017. Want to get those fields in better shape. Soccer's new shed is in place between the two soccer fields.

Brian reported that on October 9th the field adjacent to the Police Department was being used all day during a rain down pour by Youth Football. After a discussion concerning responsibilities and lack of using common sense on the part of the coaches, referees, etc. it was suggested that each sport organization should designate a Field Coordinator to check to see if a field should be used and penalties were decided that if a field is misused by any sports organization their permit to use fields may be revoked. This warning would be added to the permits and delivered to the field coordinators in hopes to resolve the problem. Brian suggested that Fran Merola might address this to the coaches, since it is his department that must work to restore the fields and Victor recommended that the rules must be enforced.

7. Program Review - The position for Recreation Program Supervisor has been posted and there have been 5 applicants to date. There is a Pickle ball program on Thursday nights and about 20 people were here. The Halloween Trunk or Treat Event will be held at the Community Center on Sunday from 2:30 to 5:30 and there have been 22 vehicles responding. There will be many activities, including hot dogs and other foods. In case of rain, the event will need to be held indoors.

8. STW Community Center - Discussion and Action

a. STW Playground Action - After explaining a breakdown of the various monies distributed for other programs, discussion of the history of the playground equipment followed and on the motion by Brian Lynch, second by Victor Palma to transfer the \$95,000 held in the 226 account to be allocated for improvement to the Stanley T playground equipment the motion passed.

9. Senior Center – They will be bringing a ceramics program in from Fired Up in Branford and making pottery at the Community Center. Currently they have a large ballroom line dancing program going on during the day and it's well attended.

10. Meeting calendar for 2017 – The Commission looked over the calendar of meetings for 2017 and approved it without changes.

11. Public Comment - *Bill Savastano was complemented and thanked for his volunteering to be the "Hot Dog guy and cook" for Trunk or Treat this coming weekend.*

12. Motion to adjourn by Victor Palma at 6:40 pm to conclude the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Leigh Bianchi, Clerk