



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK
Parks & Recreation Commission

*Susan Esty, Chairman
Kevin Lane, Vice Chair
Star Rueckert, Secretary*

www.oldsaybrookct.gov

*Jim Henderson
Tom Boland
Nancy Gatta
Steven Pernal*

**OLD SAYBROOK PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Wednesday, July 10th, 2019; 6:30 PM

MINUTES

1. **Call Meeting to Order** – Chair Susan Esty called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
Present were: Director Ray Allen, Chair Susan Esty, Jim Henderson, Tom Boland, Nancy Gatta, Steven Pernal
Absent: Star Rueckert and Kevin Lane
Also present: Recording Clerk Tina Antolino
2. **Approval of June 12th, 2019 Meeting** – A motion was made by Jim Henderson and Seconded by Tom Boland to accept and approve the minutes of the June 12, 2019 meeting with the following corrections: item 4 “Letter from the Ernest F. Gagnon Educational Foundation that since *the Park and Recreation* facility has been opened...” item 9b “The Dock & Dine property has become a hazard to people *traveling from the Dock & Dine property to the Park & Rec properties, therefore, Park and Rec will put up a fence to block entrance to the Dock & Dine property* to make it safe.”
Motion to accept the amended minutes of June 12, 2019 made by Jim Henderson and Seconded by Tom Boland and approved.
3. **Recognition of Guests** – Chair Susan Esty welcomed Bob Murphy, Chair of the Harbor Management Commission. Mr. Murphy gave an overview of plans to renovate Sheffield Street dock including building new dingy docks and kayak storage racks. The Harbor Management Commission has yet to approve a finalized plan, but they hope to have a trial kayak storage program ready for 2020. The program would include a kayak storage waitlist, resident permits, permit fee structure and enforcement policies. There was general discussion about how the Park & Rec Commission can collaborate with and compliment the Harbor Management’s program as the Park & Rec Commission plans its own kayak facilities on property it controls. Mr. Murphy left the meeting at 6:54p.m.
4. **Correspondence** – none
5. **Review of Bills** – The Commission reviewed bills #553 through #652 dated July 10, 2019 in the amount of \$49,908.95.
6. **Public Comments** – no one present
7. **Old Business**
 - A. **All Parks Review** – Director Ray Allen reported it was a very busy 4th of July week. Harvey’s Beach needed much cleanup on Friday, July 5th. Parking attendants and lifeguards did very good with the crowds. Town Beach did not need as much cleanup. Food truck vendor at Harvey’s is reporting good sales as is the Town Beach concession stand. Lifeguards had a training session this week. Chair Esty reported Town Park has been busy with picnickers and picnic tables might need replacing. Jim Henderson asked about beach

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passes and the Director reported sticker sales are a little slow, but revenue is comparable to last year and there have been no complaints about the stickers. The Director also discussed the need to have Town Beach parking lot lines re-stripped to accommodate today's larger vehicles. Public works does have orders to re-stripe the handicap parking at the pavilion. There was also discussion about placing recycling signs by recycle bins at Town Beach.

B. Preserve Update – The Director reported the parking lot at Ingham Hill Rd is moving forward with engineering work and funding is being sought. He estimates the project is about a year out from completion. The Town is still working toward a maintenance understanding with Westbrook.

C. Strategic plan of Parks Update – none

D. Any other Business regarding Programs, Facilities or Personnel – Nancy Gatta reported the pickleball courts have been very busy. She has concerns that a neighbor resident is overnight parking in the municipal lot. The Director reported the screen for the courts has arrived and water, benches and night lighting is coming in the future to the pickleball courts. He also stated, the fieldtrip to see a frisbie park will be in the near future and bids for the bathrooms at Fort Saybrook are in and funding is being sought.

8. New Business

A. Park Signs Discussion – The Director discussed plans to unify all park signs into a single consistent design. Because of the number of signs needed and cost, this project will most likely go out to bid. The commission approves the design of the signs. Nancy Gatta asked about putting a sign at Main Street Park showing pedestrians the location of the Main Street crosswalk at Sheffield Street.

B. Any other Business regarding Programs, Facilities or Personnel – The Director reported concerts on the green and Harvey's Beach are well attended and summer programs are going well. Park & Rec has employed 78 seasonal staff this year. The parking plan for Saybrook Point from Jacobson's Engineering was provided and reviewed. The commission is still awaiting recommendations from the Police Department. Closing the West exit from the center parking area was discussed as was removing vegetation from the island to create better site lines. Overnight and Saybrook Point Inn staff parking has improved in the municipal lot.

9. Reports

A. Chairman's Report – Chair Esty reported she attended both the CMC and Preserve Ad Hoc meetings.

B. Director's Report – nothing to report

C. Liaison Reports – nothing to report

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A motion was made by Tom Boland and Seconded by Jim Henderson to adjourn at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "C. L. L. L.", written in a cursive style.

Recording Clerk

****NEXT MEETING AUGUST 14, 2019****