



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK  
**Parks & Recreation Commission**

*Susan Esty, Chairman  
Steven Pernal, Vice Chair  
Jim Henderson, Secretary*

[www.oldsaybrookct.gov](http://www.oldsaybrookct.gov)

*Star Rueckert  
Bror Ashe  
Nancy Gatta  
Kevin Lane*

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

**Wednesday, January 13, 2021; 6:30 PM**  
Meeting Held Via Web Access/Dial In

**MINUTES**

1. **Call Meeting to Order** – Chair Susan Esty called the meeting to order at 6:35p.m.  
**Present were:** Director Ray Allen, Susan Esty, Jim Henderson, Steven Pernal, Star Rueckert, Kevin Lane, Bror Ashe & Nancy Gatta  
**Absent:** None  
**Also present:** Jona Paradis, Ass't Director & Tina Antolino, Recording Clerk
2. **Approval of Dec. 9, 2020 Meeting** – MOTION to accept the Dec. 9, 2020 minutes as presented made by Steven Pernal seconded by Jim Henderson and unanimously approved.
3. **Recognition of Guests** – None
4. **Correspondence** – None
5. **Review of Bills** – The Commission reviewed bills dated 12/2/2020 through 12/25/2020 in the amount of \$15,443.56.
6. **Public Comments-** None
7. **New Business**
  - A. **Strategic Plan of Parks** – Kevin Lane & Star Rueckert have met with FitzGerald & Halliday to finalize plans. The next step in the process is stakeholder meetings and the final presentation from FitzGerald & Halliday with cost analysis is expected in about 60 days. Kevin Lane presented Saybrook Point-highlights include kayak launch, fishing pier, redesign Gardiner's Landing and accessibility, boardwalk to connect properties, new bathrooms, add lighting and redo parking lot and expand pavilion to include concessions. There was discussion to add an awning picnic area by concessions. Star Rueckert presented Town Park- highlights include an improved entrance, new pavilion with bathrooms and picnic area, playground, home base relocation on adult softball field and the addition of a lacrosse/multi use field. Also, a bathroom by the fields and increased parking to 79 spots. Kevin Lane presented Harvey's Beach- highlights include redesign parking with lines, creating an all-in-one building including rooftop dining and music area, restroom, shower room and concessions. The dunes will be moved back, playground updates and new attendant booth. Star Rueckert presented Main Street Park- highlights include added pickleball courts, picnic shelter and bandstand area, added splash pad convertible to ice rink and a bocce/horseshoe area. The Commission agreed to move forward with the plans as presented.
  - B. **Harvey's Beach Vendor Application Process** – Ray Allen created an application for vendors to apply which commissions reviewed. The Commission will make a final decision approving the vendor. There was discussion about advertising and having an application versus an RFP process. There was discussion on the fee structure. MOTION to amend the 2021 fee for the

## MINUTES

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food vendor at Harvey's Beach to be \$250 for May/June, \$250 July and \$250 Aug/Sept made by Kevin Lane and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve Pernal and unanimously approved.

**C. Any Other Business Regarding Programs, Facilities or Personnel** – Jona Paradis thanked Jill at Pursuit of Pastry for the successful cookie decorating program in December. An art at the rec project which will end at end of month. Virtual yoga is going very well. Virtual youth fitness , pre & post natal fitness class and youth chess club are starting up. Summer camp seems to be going forward with kids broken into units. Summer concerts are being planned with about 16 shows. The snowman competition will not be taking place due to Covid restrictions.

### 8. Old Business

**A. All Parks Review** – Ray Allen stated Covid testing is still going on at the point through April. Parks and trails are being heavily utilized. Public works is in the process of installing the new park signs with most already done.

**B. Preserve Update-** Ray Allen reported the parking lot project is going out to bid and tree work is still being done.

**C. Any other Business regarding Programs, Facilities or Personnel-** None

### 9. Reports

**A. Chairman's Report** – Susan Esty reported she attended the CMC meeting on Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> which discussed ongoing/necessary projects at the Preserve and funding ideas.

**B. Director's Report** – Ray Allen reported the Conservation Commission would like to reestablish the memorandum of understanding committee between themselves, Parks and Rec and the Land Trust. This MOU committee discusses plans for open space at Great Cedars East & West. Commissioners interested in being a liaison to the MOU committee should contact Ray.

**C. Liaison Reports** – None

MOTION to adjourn at 8:10p.m. made by Jim Henderson seconded by Nancy Gatta and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Antolino, Recording Clerk

**\*NEXT MEETING FEBRUARY 10, 2021\***