



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK
Parks & Recreation Commission

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

www.oldsaybrookct.gov

*Star Rueckert
Bror Ashe
Nancy Gatta
Kevin Lane*

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

Wednesday, September 9, 2020; 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 6:31p.m.
Present were: Director Ray Allen, Susan Esty, Nancy Gatta, Jim Henderson, Steven Pernal, Bror Ashe & Star Rueckert
Absent: Kevin Lane
Also present: Tina Antolino, Recording Clerk
2. **Approval of August 12, 2020 Meeting** – MOTION to accept the August 12, 2020 minutes as presented was made by Jim Henderson seconded by Steve Pernal and unanimously approved.
3. **Recognition of Guests** – None
4. **Correspondence** – None
5. **Review of Bills** – The commission reviewed bills dated 8/6/2020 through 8/28/2020 in the amount of \$19,658.35.
6. **Public Comments-** None
7. **Old Business**
 - A. **All Parks Review** – Ray Allen stated all soccer fields are set up and new teams have been added since the travel season was cancelled. Maple Avenue field has come back from the drought. Beach season has finished and mini golf is still operating.
 - B. **Preserve Update** – Susan Esty reported there is an upcoming Sept. 18th CMC meeting. Ray Allen talked about storm cleanup and weed control that was done by professionals. Parking lot work should be starting after Oct. 15th. Trails are clear of debris. Hunting season begins soon and DEEP is requesting persons wear orange. There was discussion about hunting signage. Hunting is currently not allowed in the Preserve.
 - C. **Strategic Plan of Parks Update-** Ray Allen, Star Rueckert and Francisco Gomes of FitzGerald & Halliday met to discuss the next steps. Stakeholder meetings are being scheduled. After these meetings, Francisco will produce outreach survey results and will identify park improvements for the commission to consider. He then develops the plan and cost estimates. Draft of the plan should be done by December. Commissioners are encouraged to attend stakeholder meetings.
 - D. **Any Other Business Regarding Programs, Facilities or Personnel** – Ray Allen reported that the rec center has expanded hours to Saturday and evenings. There was discussion about the Harvey's Beach vendor contract and health protocols.

MINUTES

Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

8. New Business

A. Review of Summer Facilities – Ray Allen reported on seasonal revenue for each facility: Mini Golf \$146,608, Harvey's Beach \$50,179, Town Beach concession \$16,000, beach passes \$49,000 (2600 passes). Overall revenue returned to the town was \$246,000. The beach pass policy needs to be revisited and fine-tuned. Second quarter State taxes are due soon for Harvey's Beach parking revenue.

B. Any other Business regarding Programs, Facilities or Personnel- Ray Allen reported on programs. A cohort camp for elementary kids has been added, as well as, a teen center cohort camp for middle schoolers. Golf lessons, yoga and pickleball are doing well. Movie on the green is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 19th.

9. Reports

A. Chairman's Report – Susan Esty reported she attended the August 27th Ad Hoc meeting and plans to be at the Sept. 18th CMC meeting.

B. Director's Report – Ray Allen had no report.

C. Liaison Reports – Emergency management taskforce meetings have been cancelled, but one is scheduled for next week. Emergency management has grant money for businesses to buy personal protection equipment. There was discussion about Adirondack chairs on the town green and putting chairs at different park locations in 2021.

MOTION to adjourn at 7:19 p.m. made by Nancy Gatta seconded by Jim Henderson and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Antolino, Recording Clerk

NEXT MEETING OCTOBER 14, 2020