



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK
Parks & Recreation Commission

*Susan Esty, Chairman
Kevin Lane, Vice Chair
Jim Henderson, Secretary*

www.oldsaybrookct.gov

*Star Rueckert
Bror Ashe
Nancy Gatta
Jane Wisialowski*

**OLD SAYBROOK PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING**

APRIL 12, 2023

6:30 PM

This was a hybrid meeting

MINUTES

- 1. Call Meeting to Order** – Chairwoman Susan Esty called the meeting to order at 6:31p.m.

Present: Director Ray Allen; Chairwoman, Susan Esty; Secretary, Jim Henderson; Nancy Gatta; Star Rueckert; Jane Wisialowski (6:37 pm); Bror Ashe (6:47 pm); Assistant Director Jonathan Paradis

Absent: Vice Chair, Kevin Lane

- 2. Approval of January 19, 2023 Meeting Minutes** – MOTION to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Ms. Rueckert and motion passed by Ms. Esty; Mr. Henderson; Ms. Gatta and Ms. Rueckert.
- 3. Approval of February 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes** – MOTION to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Ms. Rueckert and motion passed by Ms. Esty; Mr. Henderson; Ms. Gatta and Ms. Rueckert.
- 4. Recognition of Guests** – None
- 5. Correspondence** - None
- 6. Review of Bills** – The commission reviewed the OSPR February and March bills as presented by Director Allen in the amount of \$26,144.37.
- 7. Public Comment** None
- 8. New Business**

A. Tobacco/Cannabis Free Parks Policy Discussion

The commission discussed updating their Tobacco Free Parks, Beaches and Facilities Policy. The commission discussed updating the current policy to make the properties managed by the Parks and Recreation Commission as safe as possible for all people to enjoy. It was noted, now that marijuana is legal, the current policy needed to be updated to prohibit cannabis and all vaping products. This policy will be on the agenda for discussion and a vote for the next meeting in May.

MINUTES

Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

B. Harvey's Beach Vendor Application Review

The commission read Ms. Morgan's letter to serve food from her food truck at Harvey's Beach. Director Allen noted that she answered all questions on the application. It was noted that the new price for summer food concession is in place for this year.

A motion by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Ms. Gatta to accept the vendor application of Shore She Shed to serve food from her food truck at Harvey's Beach was so voted unanimously.

C. Main Street Park Phase 2 Update

Director Allen noted the \$500K grant which included this project. He reported that right now they are starting on site work. This project will go from Main St. to Lynde St.

D. ARPA Projects Discussion

Phase 2 funding: The commission discussed the ARPA funding requests, Director Allen will report back to commission after meeting with Selectman Fortuna. He noted his focus was Little League, Soccer and Basketball. The commission looked at the projects and discussed the order of priority.

E. Any Other Business regarding Programs, Facilities or Personnel

Director Allen wanted to publicly thank Rick Pine for his perseverance during the credit card crash during registration.

Assistant Director Paradis reported the following:

- Summer registration; Mr. Paradis noted that the credit card site crashed and he and Mr. Pine were on the phone for 3 solid hours handling the registration.
- Boot Camp Pickle Ball
- T-Ball; Parthenon Diner Sponsor
- Easter Egg Hung
- Rock Hunt; Face Painting
- 4/22 Annual Fishing Derby

Ms. Esty thanked Mr. Paradis.

9. Old Business

A. All Parks Review

MINUTES

Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Director Allen reported on the following:

- Will be start irrigation of parks
- Mini Golf to start first week in May
- Wifi up and running at Trask Park
- Beaches are next for Wifi
- Stats from UDISC App: Use of course: March 333; 2023 Total: 762
- Grand opening in June.

B. Strategic Plan of Parks Discussion:

Director Allen noted that there was nothing new to report. Cost estimates are not done.

C. The Preserve Update

Director Allen noted that the Vernal Pool study is underway and should be completed by mid May. A letter will go out to the CMC. The trails need to be addressed.

D. Discussion of Maynard Property Update: None

E. Any Other Business regarding programs, Facilities or Personnel - None

10. Reports

A. Chairman's Report - None

B. Director's Report – Director Allen noted that 99% of summer staff hired. YMCA Westbrook offering lifeguard training.

C. Liaison Reports – Ms. Gatta reported there will be a lights meeting after tax season.

Ms. Esty thanked the commission and called for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. was made by Ms. Gatta, seconded by Ms. Wisialowski and was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Gerri Lewis, Clerk

NEXT MEETING: *MAY 10, 2023