



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, July 8, 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 6:32p.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 June 10, 2020 Meeting** – MOTION to accept the June 10, 2020 minutes as presented was made by Jim Henderson seconded by Nancy Gatta and unanimously approved.
- 3. Recognition of Guests** – None
- 4. Correspondence** –Susan Esty read a letter from the Economic Development Commission (EDC) addressed to the Board of Selectmen, Zoning Commission and Parks & Rec Commission. The letter outlined the desire to suspend, through December 31, 2020, the restriction of no private business allowed to be conducted on town property. There was consensus among the commission members this suspension was not favorable. Susan Esty volunteered to attend the July 9th EDC meeting to express the Parks and Recreation Commission’s concerns regarding allowing private business on town controlled property.
- 5. Review of Bills** – The commission reviewed bills #592 through #647 dated July 8, 2020 in the amount of \$30,131.79.
- 6. Public Comments-** None
- 7. Old Business**
 - A. All Parks Review** – Ray Allen reported on the following: some fields are burnt and there were small cracks in irrigation at Trask Park & Maple Ave Field big sprinkler is being fixed, the splash pad is open regular hours and the bathrooms at Trask and Town Park are open and cleaned daily. The department is working on opening bathrooms at Saybrook Point. Mini golf was slower over the 4th of July then previous years. Harvey’s Beach opened to non-residents July 1st with a max 100 person occupancy. Town Beach is still at 50% occupancy. Susan Esty reported park spaces are being used by picnickers. Star Rueckert inquired what the regulations are for masks and gloves at concessions. Any issues are the Health Department’s concern.
 - B. Preserve Update** – Susan Esty reported trail maintenance is going on. Silt netting will be picked up and benches will be built. Bear sightings have been reported in the Preserve. Eversource will start cutting brush in the right of way with botanist supervision. Public works will move stones to deter ATV activity.
 - C. Strategic Plan of Parks Update-** The survey is going strong with over 500 people responding thus far. It will go for 6-8 weeks, until the end of July.

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D. Any Other Business Regarding Programs, Facilities or Personnel – None

8. New Business

A. Saybrook Point Traffic Flow Discussion – Ray Allen reported painting stripes will begin in the next couple weeks at Saybrook Point and Town Beach. Do not enter signs will be installed.

B. Beach Facilities Discussion- Ray Allen discussed fees at Harvey’s Beach and parking attendants having trouble making change. There was discussion on how to remedy the situation in the future. Ray Allen is working to get approval to add 12 more parking spaces at Town Beach. The neighbor to the north of Town Beach came in to discuss with the Director property boundaries and the mean high tide mark. The clean-up after July 4th was not as bad as last year.

C. Any other Business regarding Programs, Facilities or Personnel- The concert series is ongoing and has a registration cap at 100 people. Steve Pernal suggested listing the genre of the band on advertisements. Movies are also on going and adult softball league started.

9. Reports

A. Chairman’s Report – Susan Esty attended the June 25th Preserve ad hoc meeting which discussed trail maintenance.

B. Director’s Report – Ray Allen reported 2,369 beach passes have been sold, resulting in \$45,100 in revenue.

C. Liaison Reports – None

MOTION to adjourn at 7:23 p.m. made by Steven Pernal seconded by Star Rueckert and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Antolino, Recording Clerk

NEXT MEETING AUGUST 12, 2020