

**Stonington Recreation Commission Meeting
Monday, March 28, 2022 at 6:00pm
SPS District Office – Board Room
40 Field Street, Pawcatuck**

MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance

6:01 p.m. All members were present.

II. Publics' Opportunity to Address the Commission

A number of parents who are involved with the Como youth basketball program addressed the commission. Kayla Babin opened with remarks and Brendan Murphy displayed a powerpoint presentation. Other members of the public who spoke with them included Jay Wosencroft, Jason Foster, Nicole Jones and Paulla Solar. The group would like to see the travel basketball program they started for 5&6th graders to continue, but under the auspices of Recreation rather than the Como. They are not requesting funding, but would require use of facilities. Director Ward stated that he would like to see more opportunities for children to play at a higher level, but emphasized that a Memo of Understanding with the Como is in effect and so a discussion must be held with the Como before any changes can be implemented. Another option for the group is to incorporate as their own 501c3 organization.

Link to presentation:

Sam Agnello addressed the commission on behalf of his son and daughter-in-law, Kevin and Ellen Agnello. He commented on the Economic Development Commission's plans regarding the "Circus Lot" located at the end of Noyes Avenue. The lot includes 5.7 acres which the EDC hopes to develop into a public park. The Agnellos suggest a playground be part of the plan for this park. Sam Agnello noted that there are limited playgrounds available for smaller children in Pawcatuck; Spellman Park is the only playground available all day but is not ideal for children 1-4. The commission generally agrees with this idea. Director Ward has not been included in prior discussion of the use of the property.

III. Secretary's Report

a. Approval of minutes from Feb 2022 Commission meeting

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Joe McKernan, seconded by Jeff Moore

IV. Recreation Administrator's Report

Spring/Summer Program update

Director Ward talked about the adult fitness classes and noted that more programs are being offered again. The use of Stonington Arms is available again which is helpful. There is a bus trip to see the Red Sox and Yankees play at Yankee Stadium in July being offered.

Program Coordinator Pete Christina talked about the flag football tournament that was held at the field adjacent to the school administration building on Field Street. Eight teams including 64 players participated and it was a great success. The next tournament will have 80 participants. He also talked about the Scavenger Hunt to be held on April 2; the theme is "The Amazing Race." Summer Camp is filling up; Full summer/full day spots are filled. There are spots available for individual weeks.

V. Finance Reports

a. General Fund – 10173

b. Special Activity – 21100

c. Disc Golf Fund – 21102

Everything is on target. Revenue is currently \$103, 785.89. Flag football revenue was down because there was no option for indoor play. Next year's budget will include an additional \$500 for utilities. We are over budget for utilities this year, but the cost will be covered by program fees.

Disc Golf: Public works have cleared more of the area and more holes are being developed. Director Ward thinks the changes will be well-received by the public. We are still in need of additional sponsors. Hole sponsorships "for life" are still available for \$850.

Jeff Moore made a motion to approve the financial report, seconded by Frank Prachniak.

VI. Chairman's Report

Nothing to report.

VII. Facilities Ad-hoc Committee Report

The Ad-hoc Committee did not meet.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Tennis Courts
- b. Flag Pole at Multipurpose Field
- c. Swings at Spellman Park Playground

a. Plan C was approved for the tennis courts although the commission had recommended Plan B. It was deemed unnecessary that the courts have lights.

b. The flag pole has been ordered and should arrive in 6-8 weeks. A thank you note from Paulla Solar was shared with the commission.

c. The new swing for the disabled will be installed at Spellman Park. A donation was made towards purchase of the swing and money from CIP funding earmarked for ADA-related work will be used for improvements and installation, so total cost for Recreation is \$755.

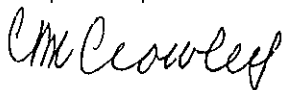
IX. New Business

None.

X. Meeting Adjourned

A motion to adjourn was made by Larry Theadore, seconded by Jeff Moore.

Respectively Submitted



C Michael Crowley, Chairman