

DRAFT MINUTES/APPROVED

To: Parks & Recreation Commission Members
From: Andrew DelVecchio, Assistant Director of Recreation
Re: Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting March 15, 2021

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held via Zoom on Monday, March 15th. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Mary Lou Stamp at 5:30pm.

I. Attendance

Commissioners Present: Bob Kowalewski, Frank Montagna, Chris Pagan,
Susan Puzycki, Mary Lou Stamp, Joan Walsh

Commissioners Absent: Al Centone

Staff Present: Andrew DelVecchio, Assistant Director of Recreation
Lynn Sadosky, Director of Public Works
Jennifer Klein, Secretary

II. Acceptance of Minutes

Frank Montagna made a motion to accept the Minutes of January 19, 2021, seconded by Susan Puzycki. All were in favor and the Minutes were accepted unanimously.

III. Correspondence

A request was received from the American Legion to do a walk around the Town Green on April 24, 2021 from 10:00-12:00 for Hartford Children's Hospital. This is a notification to the Commission as the request has already been approved by the First Selectman.

IV. Director's Report

Andrew DelVecchio, Assistant Director of Recreation

The scheduling of fields for North Haven youth programs spring and summer seasons is under way. Requests are from Max Sinoway, North Haven Girls' Softball League, North Haven Babe Ruth, North Haven Youth Lacrosse, North Haven Soccer Club, North Haven Youth Football, North Haven Cheerleading, North Haven American Legion and Diamond Zone. Field usage will be coordinated with Steve Blumenthal and Phil Diana from the Board of Education.

Applications are being accepted for summer employment.

The Easter event is scheduled for Saturday, March 27, 2021. The event will run from 10:30 – 12:30. It will be a socially distant drive through event. Each child will receive a bag of chocolate eggs. The Easter Bunny will be there to greet everyone.

Registration for the adult softball league has begun. Men's League play will again be held on Wednesday evenings. There will be 12 teams for this season. Play begins April 7th.

Planning continues for summer playgrounds, day camp and sport camps. Summer camps are tentatively scheduled for June 28th through August 6th. Planning is for a five or six week summer program. The plan is to offer a Day Camp program at the Recreation Building and a Playground program at Clintonville School.

The pool is still operating under a reservation system for lap swimming only. There are no Spring recreation or pool programs being offered at this time.

The 26th Annual Fishing Derby is scheduled for Saturday, April 17th, 2021 at Sinoway Pond. Check-in 6:15 – 7:00a.m. Fishing begins at 7:00. Fishing ends at 8:30. Presentation of awards and trophies will be at 8:45. Families will be socially distant around the pond. All safety protocols will be adhered to.

All Summer program information will be offered online. Registration will start on April 26, 2021.

Concerts will be back on the Green this summer. Concerts will run six weeks beginning on July 6th and concluding on August 10th. There will not be any food vendors or classic cars this year.

Since January 21, QVHD has been holding vaccination clinics usually twice a week at the Recreation building. Averaging 400 shots per week. This should continue into June.

Lynn K. Sadosky, Director of Public Works

Field and Parks Scheduling:

- Recreational Special Olympics has been scheduled for the Vanacore Field Track from March 13, 2021 through June 30, 2021 (Sundays only);
- The American Legion – Junior and Senior Leagues has been scheduled for the North Haven Sports Complex (DeMayo Field) and Bailey Road field. Fields are needed from March 13, 2021 through August 31, 2021;
- North Haven Track (Runners) (BOE) have been scheduled for Vanacore Field Track from March 27, 2021 through June 13, 2021;
- The North Haven Freshman / Middle Baseball / Junior Varsity Lacrosse (BOE) has been scheduled for Bailey Road field from March 27, 2021, through June 13, 2021;
- The North Haven Softball – (Varsity & Junior varsity), Baseball (Varsity & Junior Varsity) and Junior Varsity Lacrosse (BOE) has been scheduled for Brook Field and the Sports Complex (including DeMayo Field) from March 27, 2021 through June 13, 2021;
- The North Haven Boys and Girls Tennis (BOE) has been scheduled for the North Haven Sports Complex from March 27, 2021 through June 13, 2021;
- The BOE High School Athletics continues to schedule the East and West Turf Fields for its sporting events from March 27, 2021 through June 13, 2021;

- The Max Sinoway Baseball has been scheduled to play at Montowese, Gateway, Green Acres, Clintonville School, Brook and Bailey Road fields. Various fields will be needed between March 13, 2021 (weather permitting) through August 31, 2021;
- Public Works Field Operations will support efforts for the Annual Easter Extravaganza scheduled for Saturday, March 27, 2021 from 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. in the Recreation Center;
- The North Haven Soccer Club has been scheduled for Memorial, Rock Road and Ridge Road fields. Fields are needed from April 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021 (and again in July and August included for Summer Soccer Camps);
- The North Haven Girls' Softball has been scheduled for Gateway Fields 2 – 7. Fields are needed from March 13, 2021 through August 31, 2021;
- The North Haven Youth Lacrosse has been scheduled for the Aces, Vanacore, Recreation and Middle School fields. Fields are needed from March 13, 2021 through June 30, 2021;
- The Diamond Zone 120 Baseball has been scheduled for Grover Wyman Park from March 13, 2021 through August 31, 2021;
- Adult Recreation Softball at the Gateway Complex and Grover Wyman fields. Fields are needed from April 1, 2021 through August 4, 2021;
- The Annual Fishing Derby has been scheduled for Saturday, April 17, 2021 from 6:30 A.M. to 10 A.M. at Chapman Sinoway Pond on Upper State Street;
- Max Sinoway is hosting its annual Opening Day Festivities at Montowese Fields on April 24, 2021 (Rain Date April 30th) at 9 A.M. This may also be a “virtual” or “hybrid style” Opening Day;
- The American Legion will be sponsoring its annual walk-a-thon on April 24, 2021 from 10 AM to 12 NOON around the Town Green to benefit the Hartford Children’s Hospital;
- The Annual May Market has been scheduled for the North Haven Garden Club on the Town Green for Saturday, May 8, 2021;
- The 2021 Annual Summer Concert Series (6 concerts this year) is scheduled to start Tuesday, July 6, 2021 and continue each Tuesday evening through August 10, 2021 on the Town Green;
- The North Haven Track Running Camp for Vanacore Field Track from July 5, 2021 through August 20, 2021;
- The BOE Strength and Condition Camp on the Vanacore Field Track from July 5, 2021 through August 21, 2021;
- The Recreation Special Olympics for Blakeslee softball field (Wednesdays only) from July 7, 2021 through September 8, 2021; and

- The North Haven Youth Lacrosse Camp will be held for one week on the Recreation Center field during July 5 - 9, 2021.

Construction Updates

Vanacore Concession, Meeting and Bathroom Facility

On October 26, 2018, a groundbreaking was held prior to the commencement of the Varsity Football home game.

On Monday, November 5, 2018, construction began as K & W Construction of Derby commenced with site work, including tree and tree stump removal, foundation excavation, and bringing in potable water, sanitary sewer and overhead electrical utilities.

K & W Construction personnel completed their work with members of the New Haven Building Trades who have agreed to supply 'no cost' labor for work related to the concrete slab on grade and the building's 4,800 SF foundation. Concrete pours, including the slab on grade, are completed.

Capasso Restoration of North Haven completed their masonry block construction and wall work.

In 2019, roof shingles had been installed by the Local Roofers Union. The Carpenters Union had hung doors, Hardie Board siding, and installed locks to secure the facility.

Windows were installed and Insulation was completed in mid-October, 2020.

During the week of October 26, 2020, Createscapes Construction (Dave Ferraiuolo and staff) donated time and materials to prepare the site for the relocation of the existing electrical lines to be moved by John Bellamere and the Electrical Trades Union. On November 13, 2020, relocation of the existing electrical lines was conducted by John Bellamere and the Electrical Trades Union personnel. A splice box was purchased and installed on January 13, 2021 by K & W.

Jeff Wolcheski of the carpenters Union along with Sean Daly will be installing the plywood ceilings and completing the finished electrical inside the structure to be followed by finished plumbing this January – February 2021.

K + W completed the final site grading surrounding the new structure on January 13, 2021.

Lastly, the existing structure will be demolished by Quality Associates.

The project is expected to conclude in the summer of 2021, weather permitting.

The project is funded through a Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) Grant and monitored by the State of Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP).

Green Acres Elementary School Kindergarten Playscape Project

On October 19, 2020, the Director of Public Works met with the School Principal and the Director of School Curriculum at the Green Acres Elementary School. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the condition of the existing Kindergarten playscapes, their possible removal and ultimately, their replacement with new playscapes equipment.

Due to the condition and observed safety concerns, the existing Kindergarten playscape(s), including all equipment, were removed on November 6, 2020 by Public Works Field Operations.

A meeting was held on November 16, 2020, between the Elementary School, Public Works and engineering design professionals - Weston and Sampson to solicit design needs and associate project costs for Kindergarten replacement playscapes. Once a Project Scope has been developed and agreed upon, cost estimates will be developed and fund-raising efforts will be planned.

The Department of Public Works awaits a final Scope of Work and cost estimate for Professional Engineering and Land Surveying services from Weston and Sampson.

Community Bulletin Board and Upcoming Events (Calendar Year 2021):

- January 18th to 24th – St. Therese Nursery School;
- January 25th to 31st - Sacred Heart Nursery School;
- February 1st to March 7th - Sacred Heart Nursery School;
- March 29th to April 25th – Child Abuse Awareness Month;
- April 26th to May 2nd - North Haven High School;
- September 13th to 19th – US Wealth Management Shred Day.

V. Old Business

Pickleball Courts

On January 13, 2021, the Recreation Department received correspondence from residents in North Haven regarding the request for construction of a pickleball court or courts in North Haven. These residents requested they also be heard at the January 19, 2021 Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission for consideration of the project. Additionally, these residents have also spoken to the Office of the First Selectman prior to transmittal of a formal request to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Preliminary investigations and discussions with the **Town of Cheshire** have indicated that the Cheshire Parks and Recreation' Tennis/Pickleball Courts project entailed surface reconstruction and re-grading of their existing bituminous tennis courts with retaining perimeter fencing posts, painting them black and adding new black fence fabric.

Originally, there were five (5) tennis courts in the Town of Cheshire. Cheshire chose to maintain three (3) of the tennis courts and converted two (2) tennis courts in to six (6) separate pickleball courts constructed to United States of America Pickleball Construction (USAPC) standards. Cheshire chose a 3-coat color system of green and blue (pickleball “kitchen” areas left green). Cheshire utilized the WBA group (Bill Aniskovich) for consultation and Professional Design for the design and construction documents, which totaled approximately \$14,800. Cheshire then selected “The Hinding Group” for construction, which totaled approximately \$275,200 for the project. The project began early February 2020 with a ribbon cutting ceremony June 19, 2020.

North Haven is currently discussing the construction of two Pickleball Courts, which may be constructed at the South Avenue Carina Park in Town. A meeting with The Hinding Group was held for cost purposes.

The Department of Public Works is currently drafting up Bid Specifications for the construction of two pickle ball courts, associated subbase, asphalt, painting, nets, fencing, and line striping. It is estimated that Bid Specifications will be prepared by early May for public bidding purposes.

VI. New Business

None

VII. Public Participation

North Haven residents, Kim Carney and Jeanine Schmidt, said that they would be willing to meet to provide suggestions on the pickleball courts before the design is done.

VIII. Adjournment

Chairman Stamp asked for a Motion to Adjourn. Motion made by Bob Kowalewski, seconded by Joan Walsh. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 5:51pm.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, May 17, 2021 at 5:30pm.