

## DRAFT MINUTES/APPROVED

To: Parks & Recreation Commission Members  
From: Andrew DelVecchio, Assistant Director of Recreation  
Re: Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting May 15, 2023

Meeting was called to order by Chair, Al Centone at 5:30pm.

### I. Attendance:

*Commissioners Present:* Al Centone, Bob Kowalewski, Frank Montagna,  
Chris Pagan, Mary Lou Stamp, Joan Walsh

*Commissioners Absent:* Keith Macdowall

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

### II. Acceptance of Minutes:

Mary Lou Stamp made a motion to accept the Minutes of March 20, 2023 seconded by Joan Walsh. All were in favor and the Minutes were accepted unanimously.

### III. Correspondence:

None

### IV. Director's Report

#### Andrew DelVecchio, Assistant Director of Recreation

The Annual Easter Eggstravaganza was Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 at the Recreation Center. Rainy weather and a muddy field forced the cancellation of the Easter egg hunt. Activities were moved into the gym. There were selfies with the Easter Bunny, face painting, a jellybean guess and multiple crafts for the children. Each child received a bag of chocolate eggs when leaving the event. There was a small turnout because of the foul weather.

The Annual Fishing Derby was Saturday, April 15, 2023 at Sinoway Pond on Upper State Street. There was an enthusiastic but small turnout. Trophies were given for the biggest fish, first caught and first to five. Dunkin Donuts provided munchkins and coffee. Hot dogs were provided by the Town. Andy extended a special thank you to Dunking Donuts, DJ's Cards and Comics, Southern CT Tackle, the North Haven Firemen's Union and Field Operations for their assistance with the event.

April 24<sup>th</sup> kicked off registration for summer programs.

Interviews were conducted for summer camp counselor positions. Summer staff orientation will be held June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2:30 – 5:30pm. Staff will work June 26<sup>th</sup> to August 4<sup>th</sup>.

Summer Pool hours will be in effect June 26<sup>th</sup> through September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Pool and Recreation Center maintenance has been scheduled. The pool will be closed August 7<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>. The Recreation Center gym floors will be refinished on August 31<sup>st</sup> & September 1<sup>st</sup>. The gym will reopen on Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>.

Adult Softball started on April 12<sup>th</sup> with 6 teams.

Music Under the Stars will run from Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> to August 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be 15 shows.

Andy advised that he and Mike Maturo met with Sue & John D'Adamo at Blakeslee Park to pick a spot for the book barn. The book barn will be located on the right-hand side of the parking lot in front of the bike path. The book barn should be installed within the next few weeks.

Special Olympics track & field is practicing for the State games in June. There have been rave reviews from the public about the new track. Unified Softball will begin in June. The State games will be in August.

Land Trust held a shredding event in the Pool parking lot on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>.

The North Haven Garden Club's May Market event was held Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> in the Recreation Center gym.

Members of the Vox Church of North Haven are participating in clean up day at Peter's Rock on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

*Lynn K. Sadosky, Director of Public Works*

Field and Parks Scheduling:

- Recreational Special Olympics has been scheduled for the Vanacore Field Track through June 4, 2023 (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 June 27, 2023, through August 31, 2023.

- Reopening of North Haven's Vanacore Track has been scheduled for May 15, 2023 (Rain date May 17, 2023). All Commission members are invited to attend the event.
- North Haven Track (Runners) (BOE) has been scheduled for Vanacore Field Track through June 9, 2023.
- The North Haven Freshman / Middle Baseball / Junior Varsity Lacrosse (BOE) has been scheduled for Bailey Road field through June 9, 2023.
- 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) through June 9, 2023.
- The North Haven Boys and Girls Tennis (BOE) has been scheduled for the North Haven Sports Complex through June 9, 2023.
- The BOE High School Athletics continues to schedule the East and West Turf Fields for its sporting events through June 9, 2023.
- 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 (weather permitting) through August 31, 2023.
- The North Haven Soccer Club has been scheduled for Memorial, Rock Road, and Ridge Road fields. Fields are needed through June 30, 2023, (and again in July and August included for Summer Soccer Camps).
- The North Haven Girls' Softball has scheduled Gateway Fields Nos. 2 – 7, through July 31, 2023.
- The North Haven Youth Lacrosse has been scheduled for the Aces, Vanacore, Recreation and Middle School fields. Fields are needed through June 31, 2023.
- The Diamond Zone 120 Baseball has been scheduled for Grover Wyman Park through August 31, 2023.
- Adult Recreation Softball at the Gateway Complex and Grover Wyman fields. Fields are needed through August 2, 2023.
- The Annual May Market for the North Haven Garden Club was held in the Mildred A. Wakeley Recreation Center on Saturday, May 13, 2023.

- The 2023 Annual Summer Concert Series (15 concerts this year) is scheduled to start Tuesday, May 30, 2023, and continue each Tuesday evening through September 5, 2023, on the Town Green.
- The North Haven Memorial Day Parade will be held along the Town Green on May 27, 2023, with a Rain Date of June 3, 2023.
- The Agency on Aging has reserved the Town Green for June 1, 2023, for its Annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon.
- The Elks Club organization will hold its annual Flag Day Ceremony on the Town Green on June 9, 2023, from 5 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.
- North Haven First Annual Pride Day Event will be held on the Town Green on June 17, 2023, from 10 AM to 2 PM.
- St. Theresa's Church Carnival has reserved the Showmobile for use at its annual Carnival for June 23, 24, and 25, 2023.
- The BOE Strength and Condition Camp on the Vanacore Field Track will be held from June 26, 2023, through August 9, 2023.
- Pond Hill Baptist Church Movie Night has been scheduled on the Town Green for July 7, 2023 (rain date July 8, 2023).
- The Animal Haven Anniversary Celebration is scheduled on the Town Green for July 15, 2023 (no rain date scheduled).
- The Annual Toy Drive for the Sons and Daughters of Italy is scheduled on the Town Green for July 22, 2023, from 10 AM to 1 PM (no rain date scheduled).
- The Recreation Special Olympics for Blakeslee softball field (Mondays only) will be held from July 1, 2023, through September 11, 2023.
- Pond Hill Baptist Church Movie Night has been scheduled on the Town Green for August 4, 2023 (rain date August 5, 2023).
- The Quinnipiac Chamber of Commerce Business Expo will be held on the Town Green on September 23, 2023.

### Old Business

### Small-Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) Grant – Playscapes and Bandstand

On July 15, 2022, the Department of Public Works submitted a Small-Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) grant application for the replacement of two (2) playscapes at its Mildred A. Wakeley Recreation Center and for the addition of a new permanent Bandstand on the Town Green to house its concerts and outdoor events. The total grant project is \$351,563. The State's Office of Policy Management (OPM) awarded the grant on September 15, 2022.

Local approvals were secured from the Planning and Zoning Commission on January 9, 2023, the Board of Selectmen on February 2, 2023, and at a Special Town Meeting on February 27, 2023.

On May 4, 2023, the Town entered a Design Build Contract with Creative Recreation, LLC. for the construction of two replacement playscapes and a new bandstand. It is estimated that the bandstand materials will be received by September 1<sup>st</sup>. However, construction will take between 3 and 4 weeks to complete. It is estimated that the playscapes will arrive on/before November 15, 2023, and constructed 2 to 3 weeks thereafter.

#### Capital Bonding Package - Athletic Field Improvements, Middle School, and High School

The Board of Selectman met on May 5, 2022, and approved a resolution that recommended "a \$3.5 million appropriation and bond authorization for athletic field improvements, consisting of (1) installation of dugouts, grandstand seating, a press box and protective netting, restroom facilities improvements, additional parking, field improvements, and other related improvements at the girls high school softball field, and (2) relocation of the field, installation of dugouts, additional seating, a press box, batting cages and protective netting, additional parking, and other related improvements at the boys high school baseball field (DeMayo)."

The bond authorization for athletic field improvements was approved by the public at the Special Town Meeting held on June 6, 2022.

Weston and Sampson Engineers has completed the design of the proposed improvements and approvals have been secured on April 29, 2023, from the Town's Inland Wetlands Commission (IWC) and as of May 8, 2023, from the Town's Planning and Zoning Commission.

Bids will be advertised via the Town's website on June 5, 2023. A mandatory site walk for all interested Bidders will be held on June 13, 2023. The proposed Bid opening date is June 27, 2023.

#### Urban Act Grant - Bailey Road Baseball Field Improvements

On December 8, 2022, State Senator Paul Cicarella and State Representative David Yaccarino announced that the State's Bonding Commission approved of a \$250,000 Urban Act Grant for the Town of North Haven to finance the field improvements at its Bailey Road Baseball Field. This grant has been awarded through the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP).

The executed Urban Act Grant Contract Agreement and associated paperwork was received from the CT DEEP on March 14, 2023. The Town entered into a consultant contract with Weston and Sampson Engineers for the project, including the Construction Design, Plans and Bid Specifications. Land Surveying efforts are currently being undertaken at the Bailey Road Baseball Field.

It is the goal of the Board of Education to be scheduling the new field for play this Fall.

Community Bulletin Board and Upcoming Events (May 2023 to Present):

- May 8<sup>th</sup> – May 14<sup>th</sup> – North Haven Garden Club – May Market
- May 29<sup>th</sup> – June 4<sup>th</sup> – Walk for Democracy, Town Green
- June 5<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> – Pride Day Event, Town Green
- June 26<sup>th</sup> – July 2<sup>nd</sup> – Pond Hill Baptist Church – Movie Night
- July 3<sup>rd</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> – Animal Haven Anniversary Celebration
- July 31<sup>st</sup> – August 6<sup>th</sup> - Pond Hill Baptist Church – Movie Night
- August 28<sup>th</sup> – September 10<sup>th</sup> – U.S. Wealth Management Shred Event
- September 11<sup>th</sup> – October 1<sup>st</sup> Quinnipiac Chamber Event
- October 23<sup>rd</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> – Annual Prescription Drug Take Back Event
- October 20<sup>th</sup> – November 5<sup>th</sup> – Annual Senior Center Holiday Fair
- November 20<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> - Pond Hill Baptist Church – Holiday Celebration
- December 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> - Pond Hill Baptist Church – Holiday Celebration

V. Old Business

Lynn Sadosky advised she received a message from Hugh Davis, Peter’s Rock Park Association President, advising that the Peter’s Rock Association Board has been working hard to remediate the mountain bike trail system at Peter’s Rock Park and it will be fully remediated by the end of May.

VI. New Business

*Meeting Dates:* Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Dates through November 2024 were distributed. Mary Lou Stamp made a motion to accept the meeting dates seconded by Frank Montagna. All were in favor.

VII. Public Participation:

Joann Chvisuk, Peter’s Rock Association Vice President, attended the meeting because she was not sure if the communication from Hugh Davis would be received in time. She advised the Commission that she received positive comments regarding the bike path and hopes that something will be able to be done in the future.

VIII. Adjournment:

Chairman Centone 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 6:16pm.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, September 18, 2023 at 5:30pm.