

New Hartford Recreation
Special Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 19, 2018

Call to Order: 7:00 pm

Members Present: Joe Petrarca, Arnie Helt, Ed McCann, Jeremy Schaller, Linda Aquavia, Mark McCarthy

Members Absent:

Others Present: Recreation Director Christy Tellier

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm

Opportunity For Public Comment:
None

Update on Old Business

Callahan – pavement is complete, poles for basketball and tennis are in, lines were painted.

Brodie Waterfront – possible construction during November / December based on DPW schedule.

@brodiepark Cabin Space – Arnie and Christy investigated the cabins and felt a portion of the Lifeguard Cabin would be a good area to offer @brodiepark. Discussion about if it would be a lease situation or how it would be handled. It was agreed that an agreement would be drawn up with a 30-day notice to be given if the town intended to repossess the space.

Correspondence

Joe received a letter from Ron Rosentein regarding consideration of a dog park. Discussion was held. Some members expressed they felt there wasn't really a need since we are in a rural area, there is a leash law / rule, but people don't follow it. The fact that people don't pick up after their dogs currently and a concern about people picking up after their dogs in a dog park were raised. Ed commented that Torrington had recently installed a park, and various issues had arose due to space. Commission members discussed where a park might be considered if we were to install one. It was agreed to table the idea for now, with the commission feeling there was ample opportunity currently to exercise dogs in town without the expense of fencing and maintenance.

A letter was received from a teacher at Antolini looking for projects for students. There was discussion about ideas for them that included improvements along the nature path with

possible interpretive areas with plant and nature identification boards. Could possibly work with the Land Trust.

Christine Hayward submitted a request to the commission that a letter be submitted by the Recreation Commission to the town regarding the Rails to Trails project for grant funding. Jeremy offered to compose the letter.

New Business:

Arnie stated that there was some concerns about the parking for New Hartford Day. An area in the field had been fenced off due to it being a wet area during Big Wheels at Brodie. The area had been changed and subsequently got damaged due to the wetness and traffic at New Hartford Day. Additional traffic during the Lions Club Flea Market further wore down the area. It now needs to be reseeded and Arnie felt that any group hosting an event should be responsible for damage that is incurred to the fields. He further expressed that parking should be limited to the area further up by the Field House.

Arnie also stated that after New Hartford Day, park maintenance had to spend ½ hour cleaning up garbage from the cans that didn't get put in the dumpster. He stated that cans need to be emptied by event holders. During this event, people were also driving around the parking lot posts on the grass. The cement barriers have since been moved to block access around the poles if the gate is closed.

Arnie stated he would like to see more gates installed to limit access to the grass, at the Field House entrance, and to install fencing along the driveway from Niles to the Skate Park, approximately 100 yards, to prevent vehicle access to the field.

Arnie advised commission that approximately 7-10 picnic tables are needed between Brodie and Browns. Ed recommended recycled plastic tables as they last a long time and are made from all recycled materials. Jeremy estimated them to cost approximately \$800 each.

Ed stated the basketball court fence at Brodie is in disrepair. When balls go over the fence, people have been pulling the fence up to go under instead of around. It has been zip tied down to stabilize the fence. It was questioned if a higher net needed to be installed

Ed mentioned there was a large crack in court that would need attention soon. Arnie stated that Dan Jerram and the Highway Department would be addressing the crack.

Beach stickers were discussed for 2019. Commission discussed the consideration of making just one non-resident price, not having a non-resident and non-resident senior category.

Financials:

Financial were presented, everything within guidelines. No questions.

Approval of Minutes:

Ed made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2018, April 11, 2018, July 11, 2018, and the August 8, 2018 meetings. Arnie 2nd.

All were in favor, motion passes.

Jeremy made a motion to adjourn at 8:22 pm seconded by Ed. All in favor, motion passes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christy Tellier
Recreation Director