

Torrington Parks and Recreation

Meeting Minutes

May 4, 2022

Chairperson Patricia Fairchild called to order a regular meeting of the Torrington Parks and Recreation Commission on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. in the Armory. In attendance were commissioners Fran Ducotey, Jim Pescatore, Casey McKenna, and Superintendent Brett Simmons.

Adoption of Previous Month's Minutes: On a motion by Fran Ducotey with a second by Casey McKenna, the commission voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the April 6, 2022 meeting.

On a motion by Jim Pescatore with a second by Fran Ducotey, the commission voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the special commission meeting on April 20, 2022.

Citizen's Comments: Tom Kandefer asked about the status of the trails on Charlene Susan Besse Park.

Committee Updates

Facility Use:

Coe Memorial Park

1. Peggy Hotchkiss, UNICO Scholarship Night, June 8, 2022. Motion to approve by Jim Pescatore, seconded by Fran Ducotey and unanimous approval.
2. Dean Dziedzic, Torrington Road Race, August 14, 2022. Motion to approve by Fran Ducotey, seconded by Casey McKenna and unanimous approval.
3. Peggy Hotchkiss, Italian Mayor, Columbus Day, October 12, 2022. Motion to approve by Jim Pescatore, seconded by Fran Ducotey and unanimous approval.
4. Michael Burgos, NW Hills Community Church Service, 6/19, 7/17, 8/21, 9/18. Motion to approve by Fran Ducotey, seconded by Jim Pescatore and unanimous approval.
5. Marc Pruchnicki, Torrington Youth Service Bureau Awards, April 25, 2022. Pre-Approved.
6. Ralph Baker, CHH, Community Belongings Event, 8/25/2022. Motion to approve by Jim Pescatore, seconded by Casey McKenna and unanimous approval.
7. Greg Wityak, American Red Cross Blood Drive, May 9, 2022. Pre-Approved.
8. Pastor Michael Oleskin, Praise Godfest, July 23, 2022. Motion to approve by Fran Ducotey, seconded by Casey McKenna and unanimous approval.

Bishop Donnelly

1. Marc Pruchnicki, TLL, Softball Practice, April-June. Pre-Approved.

Franklin Plaza

1. Jacqueline Caruso-DeMaria, Market Place, May 26-Sept.1, 2022. Pre-Approved.

Toro I&II

1. Chris Fisher, USSSA, Tournament, May 14, 2022. Motion to approve by Jim Pescatore, seconded by Fran Ducotey and unanimous approval.

Fuessenich Park

1. Danny Hartnett, Friendly Hands Foodbank, Softball Game, 9/6, 9/7, 9/8, or 9/9. Motion to approve pending insurance and payment of fees by Casey McKenna, seconded by Jim Pescatore and unanimous approval.

Programs:

Superintendent Simmons reported:

- Summer Playground, 6 week program, staff looking good.
- Touch a Truck, June 4, Lowe's.
- Pool – Aquatics Director hired. He's reaching out to various places for lifeguard recruitment. Tier 1, 2, 3, developed for pool use.
- Vocal Showcase – Flyer provided with dates and information.
- City –Wide Tag Sale, June 25th.
- Fireworks – July 8, 2022.
- Pageant of Drums – July 16, 2022.
- Coe is the rain location for summer playground program.
- More concert dates to be filled.

Sports

- Young Men's League in Progress.
- Softball – more teams than last year.
- Summer basketball – Bill Nataro and Ryan Phalen have secured sponsors.

Capital/Budget

- * Black vinyl fence at Toro.
- Skate park funds in next fiscal year.
- Pond Management – costs increased 7%.
- Splash Pad to be opened in the summer. Needs to be inspected by the state.
- Disc Golf Course – Aaron has funding for back nine pads.
- Wooden Guard rails are going to be installed at Alvord Park.

Facility Operations – No report as the above items covered the operations.

Coe Memorial Park – No minutes provided. 52 irrigation heads cut in the park.

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Other Business – Commissioner McKenna inquired about the upcoming skateboard park meeting. He also asked Superintendent Simmons about any specific requests with the ARP funds. He also asked about the purchasing of the ornaments for the 75th Anniversary of Christmas Village.

Adjournment: On a motion by Fran Ducotey with a second By Jim Pescatore, the commission voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Patricia Fairchild, Chairperson.

