**Torrington Parks and Recreation Commission**

**Meeting Minutes**

**March 1, 2023**

Chairperson Patricia Fairchild called to order a regular meeting of the Torrington Parks and Recreation Commission on Wednesday, March 1, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. at the Armory. In attendance were Commissioners Fran Ducotey, Jim Pescatore, Casey McKenna, acting director, Ed McCann, and Public Works Director, Ray Drew.

**Adoption of Previous Month’s Minutes:** On a motion by Fran Ducotey and a second by Jim Pescatore, the commission voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the February 1, 2023 commission meeting.

**Correspondence:** None

**Citizen’s Comments**: SFG Paul Jetti addressed the commission on a request for the Armory.

**Committee Updates**

**Facility Requests**

**Armory Gym**

* Sgt. Paul Jetty, U.S. Army, for recruit training, Thursdays in March, 3 to 4:30. Motion to approve with no fees by Jim Pescatore, seconded by Fran Ducotey and unanimous approval.
* Sam Muni, Avon basketball, for basketball tournament on February 20, 2023. Pre –approved.

**West Torrington**

* Pastor Steve Darr for Easter Egg Hunt on April 8, 2023. Motion to approve with no fees because of in-kind services by Jim Pescatore, seconded by Fran Ducotey and unanimous approval.

**Coe Memorial Park**

* Chris Smedick, for PAL Summerfest on Saturday, July 29, 2023, 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Pre-approved.
* Chris Lengyel, Magic Show, for one date out of four, 1:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Motion to approve with selection of one date, fees, and proof of insurance by Jim Pescatore, seconded by Fran Ducotey and unanimous approval.
* Keith Mutch, Torrington Family Kempo, Saturday, May7, 2023, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Motion to approve with fees by Fran Ducotey, seconded by Casey McKenna and unanimous approval.
* Rev. Angela Boratko, National Day of Prayer, May 4, 2023, 5:00 to 9:00. Motion to approve by Jim Pescatore, seconded by Fran Ducotey and unanimous approval.
* Church group for Back to School Drive, August 26, 2023, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. outside only. Motion to approve by Fran Ducotey, seconded by Jim Pescatore and unanimous approval.

**Programs**

Ed McCann reported:

* Casino trips are starting.
* Easter Egg Hunt at THS field on April 1, 2023.
* Planning of Summer Concert Series going well with one open date.
* Swim passes will increase by $3.00. Shannon Sharack will start on April 1st.
* Pageant of Drums will not take place this year due to not enough planning time.
* Summer Day program will be held at Durand St. only with before and after child care, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30. p.m.
* Toro soccer field will be inoperable this year due in –house field work. The league will be offered Bishop Donnelly.
* Pickle ball nets have been ordered.
* Basketball hoops and\* equipment are ready for installation at the Teen Center.

Casey McKenna met with the Warner in regards to Vocal Showcase. The time of the show has been changed to 5:00 p.m. in the Nancy Marine Theater. Scott Kellogg’s band is on board for that date.

**Sports**

* Changes to softball operation were discussed. There will be a meeting on Tuesday, March 7, 2023.

**Capital/Budget**

Ray Drew presented and discussed the following 2023/24 budgets:

* Recreation Budget: Motion to approve by Jim Pescatore, seconded by Fran Ducotey and unanimous approval.
* Coe Memorial Park regular and capital budgets: Motion to approve by Fran Ducotey, seconded by Jim Pescatore and unanimous approval.

**Facility Operations**

Ray Drew reported:

* Moving forward with the Teen Center
* Armory turnover to the city has not yet occurred.
* Dugouts and fencing was obtained from Torrington High School and are in storage.
* Ruwet project is still in the works.
* Contract has been signed for the skate park. $775,000 cost for just Skate Park. Total project with basketball court is about $975,000.

**Coe Memorial Park**: no minutes submitted.

**Old Business**

Plans for the memorial service for Brett Simmons are progressing.

**New Business**

Fran Ducotey reported that Mike Zaharek wants to dedicate a tree in Brett’s honor. A place for it will be discussed with him.

**Other Business**

None

**Adjournment**: On a motion by Jim Pescatore and seconded by Fran Ducotey, the commission voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:50 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Patricia Fairchild, Chairperson.