

Torrington Parks and Recreation Commission
Minutes
April 7, 2021 Meeting

Chairperson Patricia Fairchild called to order a regular meeting of the Torrington Parks and Recreation Commission on Wednesday, April 7, 2021, at 5:20 p.m. at Coe Memorial Park Civic Center. In attendance were Commissioners Jim Pescatore and Casey McKenna as well as Superintendent Brett Simmons.

Adoption of Previous Month's Minutes: On motions by Jim Pescatore and seconded by Casey McKenna, the commission voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the February 3, 2021 meeting and the March 3, 2021 meeting.

Correspondence: Brett received a donation of \$2,500.00 for Christmas Village from the James E. Murphy Fund of Northwestern Connecticut Community Foundation.

Citizen's Comments: None

Committee Updates

Facility Use:

1. On a motion by Casey McKenna with a second by Jim Pescatore, the commission voted unanimously to officially approve all the preapproved requests for various facilities.
2. On a motion by Jim Pescatore with a second by Casey McKenna, the commission voted unanimously to approve all the requests for field usage.

Coe Memorial Park:

1. Jeffrey Seiser for Veterans Tribute on May 1, 2021. Motion to approve by Casey McKenna, seconded by Jim Pescatore and unanimous approval.
2. Ed Cannata for Strawberry Festival on June 11, 2021 and June 12, 2021 with a rain date of June 13, 2021. Motion to approve by Casey McKenna, seconded by Jim Pescatore and unanimous approval with fees and insurance.
3. Sgt. Greg Wityak for Blood Drive on June 17, 2021. Motion to approve by Jim Pescatore, seconded by Casey McKenna and unanimous approval.
4. Chris Smedick (PAL) for Dress For Success on August 7, 2021. Motion to approve by Casey McKenna, seconded by Jim Pescatore and unanimous approval.

Franklin Plaza

1. Lesley Budny (Warner Theater) for Warner Gala on August 28, 2021 or rain date, April 29, 2021. Motion to approve by Casey McKenna, seconded by Jim Pescatore and unanimous approval.
2. Chris Smedick (PAL) for PAL Summerfest on July 31, 2021. Motion to approve by Casey McKenna, seconded by Jim Pescatore and unanimous approval.

Torrington Skate Park:

Charles DeVito (The Outlet for the Arts) for Battle of the Bands on June 12, 2021, rain date of June 13, 2021. Motion to approve by Jim Pescatore, seconded by Casey McKenna and unanimous approval pending proof of insurance.

Major Besse Park:

Pastor Steven Darr (First Congregational Church) for Food Distribution on April 11, 2021, May 11, 2021, June 8, 2021. Motion to approve by Jim Pescatore, seconded by Casey McKenna and unanimous approval.

Programs

Superintendent Simmons reported:

- Babysitting course on May 1st.
- Brochure is almost finished.
- Various summer camps are planned.
- Playground program will begin the last week in June through mid-August. Staffing is a problem at this time. This problem also exists with the pool.
- Movie Night at Coe Memorial Park at the end of June.
- Touch a Truck at the beginning of June.
- Fireworks on July 9th.
- Summer Concerts in Coe Memorial Park, June through August.
- Northwest Vocal Showcase auditions begin June 5th and the final is possibly on August 15th at the Warner.

Sports

- Softball registrations due Friday, April 9th.
- Still hopeful that summer basketball will occur.

Capital/Budget:

- Splash Pad project having cost overruns due to many construction issues.
- Brett has been holding off completing many projects.

Facility Operations

- Fields are getting prepped.
- Brett is overseeing the beautification of the downtown gardens with Still River Gardens as the contractor.

Coe Memorial Park

- The commission reviewed the minutes of the last meeting of the Coe Memorial Park Committee.
- There will be a garden presentation by Still River Gardens on April 14.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Other Business: None

Adjournment: On a motion by Jim Pescatore with a second by Casey McKenna, the commission voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:34 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Patricia Fairchild, chairperson and acting secretary.

