



STEVE PIERCE
Director

SCOTT KIERAS
Assistant Director

JIM LEWICKI
Program Coordinator

BEVERLY HODGE
Administrative Secretary

Wilton Parks and Recreation Commission

May 11, 2016

Present: Commissioners Mark Ketley, Joe Burke, Sarah Gioffre, Jennifer Kendra, Parks and Recreation director Steve Pierce, First Selectman representative to P&R Commission Dave Clune, First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice, and William Patty,. The meeting was called to order at 8:02 pm.

Minutes:

Commissioner Joe Burke opened the meeting with a call to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Mark Ketley made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Kendra. Minutes approved 4-0.

Urgent Business

This item was added to the front of the Agenda by senior member of the commission, Joe Burke. Joe announced that Chairman, Mark Ketley has resigned from the Commission and as Chair. Mark will remain temporarily until his spot can be filled.

The Commission would like to thank both Mark Ketley and Kevin O'Brien for their years of service on the Commission.

Joe Burke made a motion to nominate Sarah Gioffre as Chairman. Seconded by Jennifer Kendra. New Commission Chair, Sarah Gioffre, was voted in 4-0 by Commission members.

Staff/Sub Committee Reports

Grounds Report

- Catching up on mowing.
- One seasonal ground employee has been hired, 4 additional seasonal applicants are being tested next week. Recommendation goes to town hall for full background checks and approval processes.
- 6-7 new garden plots coming next week, 30 now renewable by gardeners, some doubles when not renewed get split and offered to next on the waitlist.
- With budget passed, now moving forward with plans for Merwin Meadows for the summer.
 - Instituting new registration process for residents and non residents. Free for Wilton, fee for non-residents. All membership and daily passes will be sold at Comstock. No on-site sale of passes.
- Parks and Recreation offering movies and concerts this summer at Merwin Meadows. Dates will not conflict with library concerts. Town putting together a town-wide calendar of all events for greater coordination.
- Lines painted on Lilly field without authorization will be cleaned and Wilton Lacrosse Association will be invoiced for this work.
- Reviewed issues with Miller Driscoll PTA after the Spring Carnival; next year written on application that can't use grass.
- Wilton Soccer Association is going to be replacing all soccer goals with new size goals in next two years.
- Wilton Baseball Softball Association wants to add press boxes to high school varsity fields. Will also provide storage which will minimize need for trailer storage.
- Discussion about the impact that high school athletic schedule changes/conflicts have on field availability for youth athletic



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associations was had. Steve will schedule a meeting to sit down with WHS Athletic Director and Principal.

- WHS Tennis Boosters – Steve Pierce has notified boosters they are approved to go forward with fundraising for new bleachers at the high school tennis courts.
- New Stadium PA system funded by Wilton Youth Lacrosse and Youth Field Hockey coming in May/June.
- Parts waiting to be received to repair outdoor workout area at the Stadium.
- Comstock Open House: Wednesday, May 18th, 10-2 pm.
 - Opening Ceremony will be at 1:00 pm with Lynne Vanderslice, Judy Zucker and Dick Dubow (representing Bill Brennan who is out of town) will be in attendance.
 - Media has been invited – Bulletin, Villager, Hour, Good Morning Wilton plus database mass email.
 - Tours will be offered.
 - Turner, Architects and building committee will be available to answer questions.
- Stadium Turf bond approved.
 - July 15-Aug 15 is planned installation timing.
 - New protection netting part of installation plan.
 - Will use Shaw contractor, not substitute.
 - Mark Ketley offered to stay involved with installation to make sure all is completed according to plan.

Recreation Report

- Camp registrations are picking up.

New Business

- Lynne Vanderslice, Wilton First Selectman joined the meeting to provide an update on new turf field.
- Lights facing woods at the Middlebrook football field are not legal. These lights were approved by P&Z years ago, however, a permit was never applied for nor approved. Lights facing woods are currently disconnected/cannot be used and will be removed. Lights facing parking lot are legal, however, they would only light half of the football field.
- Steve Pierce is working on identifying possible alternative fields and alternative lighting for youth sports associations for fall of 2016.
- Discussed need for comprehensive, long term plan for fields for the town. Suggested the Commission establish sub committees to study long term field usage needs and possible new field locations.
- Dave Clune announced there is some early work being done to reestablish the Wilton Sports Council, which would work on planning and fundraising for future town athletic facilities.
- Discussion regarding the poor condition of the parking areas at Allen's Meadows. Steve Pierce will get a quote for laying new stone on parking areas.

Old Business

- Steve Pierce is contacting youth athletic associations and WHS regarding sports equipment cleanup and storage issues as discussed at last month's meeting.

Public Comment

- None



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Jennifer Kendra made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Joe Burke seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0. The Parks and Recreation meeting adjourned at 9:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Kendra
Commissioner

