

**MINUTES – GLASTONBURY RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING – September 21, 2020**

The Glastonbury Recreation Commission held a Regular Meeting on Monday, September 21, 2020, by Zoom Video Conferencing.

Commission Members Present on Zoom Meeting: John Langmaid, Yola Rondinelli, Jessica Wallace, Corey Turner and Ellen Saunig

Commission Members Absent: Mario DiLoreto

Others Present on Zoom Meeting: Lisa Zerio, Director of Parks & Recreation

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

1. Correspondence:

- Correspondence was received and discussed.

2. Minutes:

The minutes of the June 15, 2020 regular meeting and the August 10, 2020 Special Meeting were Approved Unanimously.

3. Committee Reports:

There were no Committee Reports.

4. Director's Report:

- Minnechaug Golf Course: 22,092 rounds of golf have been played through September 17, 2020. The restaurant lease is in the process of being finalized.
- Use of School Facilities: Until further notice, we are unable to use the inside of any school facilities for programs due to Covid-19.
- Splash Pad Update: Corey Turner mentioned there is an upcoming meeting to discuss the splash pad with the Town Manager, Lisa Zerio, and members of the Rotary Club. Lisa updated the Commission that the feasibility study and conceptual design have been completed. If the project is to move forward, the next step would be the design and construction phase of the splash pad.

5. New Business:

- Summer Program Wrap-up & Fall Program Update:

Lisa Zerio gave the Commission an overview of the summer programs and an update on Fall programs. The summary included pools, swim team, tennis lessons, boat launch, boat storage, L.L. Bean Discovery School, Slipaway River Tours, summer camps, contracted summer camps, fitness programs, Teen Center, Friday Night Club, softball, field and facility reservations, Skate Park, Special Events, Community Mask Program, Kangaroo Kids, Santa's Run, Boathouse After School activities, and Dog Obedience classes.

Commission members credited staff for running the programs and the Town Manager's support of the programs as well.

- Cotton Hollow Update:

Lisa gave an update on Cotton Hollow since the Town instituted the Park Ranger Program and began charging a \$5.00 daily resident parking fee. Park Rangers were checking I.D.'s and, if they were a town resident, they were allowed access into the preserve with their guests. There was no charge for walk-ins. Any people that were allowed access were told they could not bring in backpacks, coolers, radios, etc.

A discussion followed on what transpired at the last Town Council meeting in regards to Cotton Hollow and Great Pond Preserve. The Commission members were all in agreement that the Preserve should be open and welcoming. The issues that were occurring are a capacity issue that needs to be addressed. It is important to educate those that want to utilize the Preserve on what the expected behaviors are. The role of the Park Rangers is key as they need to monitor the entrances. Chairman Langmaid mentioned that the Park Rangers could pass out bags to those entering the Preserve and ask them to pick up any trash they may find along their way.

A discussion evolved as to fees and also the funding of the Park Ranger Program.

- Pitch in Glastonbury:

Lisa updated the Commission on a joint venture with GPIIP and how to get the community more involved in organized clean-ups. The program is getting a favorable response.

- Park Ranger Program:

Discussed above under the Cotton Hollow update.

6. Any Other Business to Come Before the Commission:

Jessica Wallace mentioned that she would still like to see a disc golf course in the future and also an adult kayaking program.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Zerio
Director of Parks & Recreation