

MINUTES – GLASTONBURY RECREATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING – November 13, 2023

The Glastonbury Recreation Commission held a Regular Meeting on Monday, November 13, 2023

Commission Members Present: John Langmaid, Luther Weeks, Corey Turner, Jessica Wallace

Absent: Mario DiLoreto, Ellen Saunig

Others Present: Lisa Zerio, Director of Parks and Recreation

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m.

1. CORRESPONDENCE

- NONE

2. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 16, 2023, REGULAR MEETING were approved unanimously.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- NONE

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Lisa provided information on the following:

- **Program Updates-**

- The Spooky Stroll and Hometown Heroes events were both highly successful.
- Santa's Run race registration is ongoing and will be held on Sunday, December 3rd. There are currently 300 people registered.
- The Town and Community Tag Sale was held on Sunday 10/22/23. 34 families registered to sell items in addition to the Town booth. The event was successful despite the need to reschedule several times.
- The recreation swim team has its first meet on November 12th. There are total number of 190 swimmers in the program. The Turkey Trot USA meet is has returned after a few years of absence. This event is scheduled for Nov. 17th.
- The second session of the Wacky Wednesday program started with 99 children enrolled.
- GBA is starting up with over 800 participants registered.
- Looking into a potential partnership with Chris Cote's Golf Shop on Portland to run indoor golf league and lessons in Portland.
- Winter/Spring brochure:
 - Final Copy to Printer by: Friday, November 17th
 - Brochure Mailed to Residents: Week of December 3rd
 - Program Information Goes Live Online by: Tuesday, December 5th
 - Registration Begins: Tuesday, December 12th

- **Greg Foran, Park Superintendent-** Greg has received the 2023 Distinguished Service Award for Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association (CRPA), which is the most prestigious award that CRPA offers. To receive the Distinguished Service Award, the nominee shall be a CRPA member and an individual who has made outstanding contributions over a significant number of years to the recreation and/or parks field. Such contributions might be for outstanding leadership, committee work on a state or national level, outstanding service as a professional worker, research, promoting the profession, and/or outstanding development of equipment, layout or design. Greg is certainly deserving of this award.

- **Cotton Hollow Ruins-** Lisa advised that as discussed in the last meeting, Structures North Consulting Engineers Inc. were hired to evaluate its current structural condition and determine its options for future longevity. They visited the site on 9/30/23. Once the report is received it will be shared. Discussion pursued if the ruins are technically now part of Cotton Hollow Preserve, and if not the Recreation Commission advised Lisa to ask the Town Manager the status. John Langmaid read portions of the Code of Ordinances that states that the Preserve be maintained in a natural and undisturbed state. Luther Weeks suggested that the Recreation Commission look at the report before making any recommendations. Lisa will advise the Town Engineer and the Town Manager that the Commission would like to review the report and be able to weigh in on any decisions before any work is done to the site.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- **Little League Project-** Don Longtin, President of Little League gave an update on the fundraising efforts to date. The overall project is estimated to be \$190,000. A donor has come forward with interest in sponsoring the monument. Several fundraisers have been planned to include a magic show to be held in January and a golf tournament. Jill Barry was also in attendance and stated she was there in support of the project. Mr. Longtin introduced Ryan Deane of Benesch that is working on the design of the Heroes' Field monument. Mr. Deane passed out a power point document that covered introducing the project, site location and images, inspiration of the project, and concepts and materials. A motion was made by Corey Turner and seconded by Jessica Wallace, that the Recreation Commission supports the project to include changing the current lights at Riverfront Field to LED and supports the name change to Heroes' Field along with the proposed monument. All in favor, 5-0.
- **Budget-** Lisa provided the Commission with the proposed budget schedule with the Town Council. She reviewed the current CIP program of approved projects for FY24. Lisa stated she is working with staff on proposed budget submissions that are due the week of 11/13 to the Town Manager.

Center Green Improvements- Lisa presented concept plans for improvements to Center Green. The Commission acted favorably of proposed suggestions.

- **Open Space Management Plan-** Lisa advised that the consultants are compiling the survey results and hope to have them available by the next meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- NONE

7. ADJOURNMENT meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Next scheduled meeting – December 18, 2023, 5:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Zerio, Director of Parks & Recreation