

TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Parks and Recreation Commission
Minutes
December 4, 2023

Minutes are subject to the approval of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Present: Chairman C.J. Kersten, Commissioners Sheila Anson, Joe Fredlund, Steve Inglese, Carrie Rowe, Joanne Kelly, Tim Cook, Greg Kraft. Guest Ray Reich. Clerk Mary Anne Greene.

Call to Order: Chairman C.J. Kersten called the meeting to order at 5:42p.m. noting there was a quorum present.

Prior to addressing the business on the Agenda, Sheila Anson thanked former Commissioner Ray Reich for attending this evenings meeting and presented him with a gift from the Commission expressing sincere gratitude for his thirty years of service to the Commission. Ray devoted countless hours to overseeing the Town Beach, Chairing the 4th of July Celebrations for most of his 30 years on the Commission, and rarely, if ever, missing a Parks and Recreation event ready to lend a hand.

Approval of Minutes:

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the November 13, 2023 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. By Tim Cook, seconded by Greg Kraft and unanimously approved.

Commissioner Sheila Anson reported the following for Community Services Director, Jenn Pote, who was not able to attend this evening's meeting:

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Pickle Ball Courts:** Director of Facilities Mark Showalter, as well as Highway Director Kevin Smith, have reviewed the bid submitted by Hinding Tennis Courts to construct and install two Pickle Ball Courts at the Washington Primary School. More information is needed prior to awarding the bid.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Holiday in the Depot:** Jenn Pote has requested assistance from the Commissioners for Holiday in the Depot this Friday, December 8th. Help is always needed in the Town Hall circle to assist with the horse drawn wagon, keeping the flow of people moving as well as safe and to assist with the children visiting Santa. Sheila Anson has contacted the coaches of Shepaug Field Hockey, Soccer, Softball, Boys Tennis and Basketball – all of whom achieved spots in Berkshire League Championships and State Finals – requesting they and their team members light the Christmas Tree at Town Hall.
- **Stipend for Mark Kusch:** Mark is again implementing the music for Holiday in the Depot which will begin at noon and play throughout the event. The Commissioners agreed to discuss a stipend further at the January meeting.
- **2024 Meeting Schedule.** Meetings are held at the Legion Hall/Senior Center at 5:30p.m. unless otherwise noted and may be subject to change. The following schedule will be filed with the Town Clerk: January 8, February 12, March 11, April 15, May 6, June 10, July 8, September 9, October 7, November 4 and December 9.

- **Fun-ter-ventions:** Commissioner Joanne Kelly reported she has spoken with Jenn Pote regarding sponsoring pop-up events over the winter months. Ideas mentioned include a dodge ball night, “silent disco”, yoga, a talk on mindfulness and tubing at Mohawk Mountain. Ideas are welcome and will be discussed further at the January meeting.
- **Winter Fest:** This too will be discussed further at the January meeting. Rumsey Hall School has graciously offered to host this event – weather permitting.

Next Meeting: January 8, 2024.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:05p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Clerk