

**Town of Chester
Recreation Commission Meeting
Monday, November 5, 2018
Municipal Complex
Approved Minutes**

I. Preliminaries

1.1 Call to Order

Chairperson Trask called the meeting to order for the Town of Chester Recreation Commission (RC) at 7:05 pm.

1.2 Roll Call

RC members present:

Michelle Trask, Chairperson
Leslie Hammond, Vice Chairperson
Kevin Kistler
Kendra Kearney
Melinda Mafera
Maria Oakley

Jeremy Owens- BOS Liaison (departed meeting at 7:34 pm)

RC members absent:

Rick Pike

Staff present:

Corinna Reishus, Recreation Director

Others present:

Chester Baseball and Softball League Board Members:

Jerry Bolduc
Tim Callahan
John Dalrymple
Joe Krasowski
Ray Leger
Seth Theokas
Matt Watson

II. Non-Public Session

Chair Trask made a motion to enter Non-Public session under RSA 91 A:3, II (d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are averse to those of the general community; Mr. Kistler seconded the motion. Motion approved 6-0-0, with a roll call vote: Trask – yes, Hammond – yes, Kearney – yes, Kistler – yes, Mafera – yes, Oakley – yes.

The Commission entered Non-Public session at 7:06 pm.

Chair Trask made a motion to leave Non-Public session and return to Public session; Ms. Mafera seconded the motion. Motion approved, 6-0-0.

The Commission entered Public session at 7:32 pm.

Chair Trask made a motion to seal the minutes for a duration of six months, because it is determined the divulgence of this information likely would render a proposed action ineffective; Ms. Oakley seconded the motion. Motion approved 6-0-0, with a roll call vote to seal the minutes: Trask – yes, Hammond – yes, Kearney – yes, Kistler – yes, Mafera – yes, Oakley – yes.

III. New Business

3.1 *Chester Baseball and Softball League*

The Board members of the Chester Baseball and Softball League came before the Commission at 7:34 pm.

Ms. Reishus said that the League Board Members are here to give an update on the three projects on which the Chester Baseball and Softball League are working. She noted that the Wason Pond infields are a main interest.

Mr. Callahan explained that they are working very hard to complete the Wason Pond infields. He noted that they are running into challenges with the weather and getting quotes. Mr. Callahan said that they would appreciate some recommendations from the Recreation Commission.

Ms. Reishus said that originally when the Recreation Commission had offered the \$10,000 for supplies for the project, the League had had someone who was willing to donate their work to cut the fields.

The Commission and the League Board members discussed the funding. They discussed how the money can be spent, and when the money needs to be spent.

Mr. Callahan asked for a map of the Wason Pond fields.

Ms. Reishus said that there is a map but it isn't the exact map of the layout of the fields that was completed.

Mr. Krasowski said that a map or diagram of the layout of the fields would be helpful; he explained that the person who had donated his time to cut the fields may still do the work, but that it has been a challenge to get him involved.

Ms. Reishus presented the map that is the graphic rendering of the plan for the fields at Wason Pond. She noted that the soccer field was rotated to fit, changing the final location of the field.

Vice Chair Hammond recommended an updated blueprint of Wason Pond fields be created.

The Commission and League Board members reviewed the map.

The Commission and the League Board members had much discussion about the specifics of the project, how best to look for bids, the funding available, the different aspects of the projects of the fields at Wason Pond, and who is doing what for each aspect of the project. They agreed that working together to complete the entire project would be the most cost effective.

The two groups continued to discuss how best to get the work on the baseball/softball fields done most efficiently, quickly, and cost effectively.

Mr. Callahan said that they have a new website with a digital marketing space that he hopes will get

more community involvement and get people to contribute to the projects.

Mr. Callahan said that the dugouts and the pitcher's mounds will be worked on in the spring.

Vice Chair Hammond asked the League Board members if they need anything else at the fields.

The Board members noted that a fenced "on-deck" batting area would make a much safer game situation for the kids.

The Commission and the League Board members discussed who can get bids for the project, and how many bids to get.

Ms. Reishus reiterated that the money they have is for "finish grading, and reseeding," that that is what the line states.

Mr. Kistler explained that when the project was started, the Recreation Commission purchased and installed the backstops and provided the money for materials, and the Baseball and Softball League had a person willing to donate his work.

The Commission and the League Board members agreed that the Baseball and Softball League Board members would come to the Nov. 26th meeting.

The Baseball and Softball League Board members departed the meeting at 8:25 pm.

3.2 Election of Recreation Commission Chair and Vice Chair

The Commission held their annual elections for Commission Chairperson and Commission Vice Chairperson.

Ms. Reishus distributed the ballots for both Chair and Vice Chair.

Ms. Reishus read the results of the ballot votes:

Ms. Trask had the majority of votes for Chairperson. Ms. Trask said she accepts the election results.

Mr. Kistler had the majority of votes for Vice Chairperson. Mr. Kistler said he accepts the election results.

Ms. Hammond made a motion to accept the results of the ballot votes of the election; Ms. Mafera seconded the motion. Motion approved, 6-0-0.

3.3 Recreation Goals (5 year/ 25-year plan)

The Commission agreed to discuss this topic at the next meeting.

IV. Review and Approve minutes from October 22, 2018 meeting.

The Commission reviewed the minutes of October 22, 2018.

Chair Trask made a motion to accept the October 22, 2018 minutes as presented; Mr. Kistler seconded the motion. Motion approved, 4-0-2, Ms. Mafera and Ms. Kearney abstained.

V. Reports

5.1 *Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee*

Ms. Oakley said there is nothing to report; she noted that the Spring Hill Farm Commission only meets one time a month and hasn't met since the last Recreation Commission.

5.2 *Wason Pond Conservation and Recreation Commission*

Ms. Reishus informed the Commission that the Wason Pond had been drained by the Fire Department, to replace a four-inch dry hydrant with a six-inch dry hydrant.

VI. Old Business

6.1 *CIP/ Impact Fees*

Ms. Reishus informed the Commission that the Recreation Commission will be presenting their proposed projects for the CIP at the Planning Board meeting on Wednesday, November 7, 2018, at 7:00 pm.

Ms. Reishus updated the Commission on the projects which the Commission has put forward on the CIP.

Ms. Reishus and the Commission discussed the projects and their priority, the funding of projects, and the upcoming meeting with the Planning Board.

The Commission had much discussion about the need for the Pavilion project, and the group supporting the Pavilion project (the Wason Pond and Conservation Commission) and the need for picnic tables at Wason Pond for the Summer Program.

Vice Chair Hammond noted that the Pavilion has been part of the Town's Master Plan for Wason Pond.

Ms. Oakley stated that the Pavilion is necessary for the safety of the kids at the Summer Program.

Chair Trask pointed out that the Recreation impact fees cannot be used for other Town Department's use; she explained that they are prioritizing their projects with the understanding that they will be using the Recreation Department impact fees.

Ms. Reishus said that she will inform Mr. Hadik that the Recreation Commission will not be asking for a warrant article for the Town to vote on this year.

6.2 *Summer Program*

Not addressed.

6.3 *Contra Dances/ Events*

Ms. Reishus said that they are in the red \$44.00 this month.

Ms. Hammond noted that she will be unable to be present at the February Contra Dance and will need someone to cover for her.

Vice Chair Kistler noted that he may be able to cover that day.

6.4 *Fields/ Drainage Issues*

Ms. Reishus updated the Commission on the plans and actions to improve the field drainage. She noted

that after a “walk-through” and review, the drain outlet needs to be fixed with a power snake or flush of the drainage because vegetation has grown into the pipes. Ms. Reishus said that about 15 years ago, the pipes were dug up and replaced when they had vegetation growth. She agreed with Ms. Mafera when she stated that the drainage from the street needs all new drainage from the street to get proper drainage for the fields.

Vice Chair Hammond said that the field drainage problem impacts about 400 families. She noted that if the problem isn’t fixed, the fields will likely be unusable next soccer season, depending on the weather.

6.5 Soccer Wrap-Up

Ms. Hammond a review of the end-of-the-year party, noting that they divided the party into two parties divided by age group. She said that they will be playing the championship games for the U18 and U15 next week.

6.6 Basketball

Ms. Reishus gave an overview of the Basketball Program. She noted that the registrations are slow in coming but expects them to increase after soccer. Ms. Reishus said that getting coaches has been challenging.

VII Adjournment

Chairperson Trask adjourned the meeting at 9:08 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Recording Secretary,

Molly Qualters

Next Meeting – November 26, 2018 @ 7:30 pm