

**Town of Chester  
Recreation Commission Meeting  
Monday, June 11, 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 7:37 pm.

**1.2 Roll Call**

RC members present:

Michelle Trask, Chairperson  
Leslie Hammond, Vice Chairperson  
Maria Oakley  
Rick Pike  
Jeremy Owens- BOS Liaison (arrived at 8:29 pm)

RC members absent:

Kevin Kistler  
Melinda Mafera

Staff present:

Corinna Reishus, Recreation Director

Others present:

Kendra Kearney

**II. Review and Approve minutes from May 22, 2018 meeting.**

The Commission reviewed the minutes from May 22, 2018.

Chair Trask made a motion to accept the May 22, 2018 minutes as drafted; Ms. Oakley seconded the motion. Motion approved, 3-0-1, Mr. Pike abstained.

**III. Reports**

**3.1 Budget**

Ms. Reishus informed the Commission that the current budget figures look good. There is 7.9% remaining under the Recreation line budget and 14.94% remaining under the Wason Pond – Recreation budget. The only items needed are some additional supplies which will be ordered this week.

**3.2 Impact Fee**

Ms. Reishus informed the Commission that she met with the maintenance department and took some measurements for the MPR wall pads. These should be ordered this week. The benches/bleachers are in and ready to install. Ms. Reishus is working with maintenance on installation. The soccer nets have also arrived and being stored until the fall season.

**IV. Old Business**

**4.1 Fishing Derby**

Ms. Reishus informed the Commission that 76 children participated this year and thanked the Chester Police for once again co-sponsoring this event and for the donations received from Charlie Moore, the Mad Fisherman, and MLM Construction. The Fishing Derby is always held the first Saturday in June.

Chair Trask discussed the hours for next year. During the event, Recreation and Police discussed times for next year and would like to see the Fishing Derby run from 8:00am–12:00pm with Registration from 8:00am-8:30am; Fishing from 8:30am-11:30am and Prizes and Awards from 11:30am-12:00pm.

**4.2 Summer Program**

Ms. Reishus informed the Commission that there are currently 75 children enrolled in the program. She has hired 22 staff members. Training days will be Wednesday, June 20, 2018 at the Fire Station for staff who need First Aid/CPR training and Friday, June 22, 2018 for staff training and Wason Pond cleanup. The Meet & Greet is scheduled for Friday, June 22, 2018 from 5:00pm-7:00pm. Ms. Reishus distributed the proposed calendar listing the field trips. The field trips will be posted online tomorrow.

Chair Trask asked how many half day children have enrolled and Ms. Reishus informed her 20. Mr. Reishus reminded everyone that the last day to register is this Friday, June 15, 2018.

**4.3 Chester Academy Gym Usage**

Ms. Reishus informed the Commission that she received an e-mail from Superintendent Darrell Lockwood. He spoke with Nyles Johnson, the Athletic Director, and there are usually 8 away games. On those days the gym is not used directly after school and that would be an opportunity to have a team come in earlier than the typical 6:15pm. Ms. Reishus informed Superintendent Lockwood that she would bring it up to the Commission but that it would be tough to schedule since our coaches are volunteers and work full time jobs and most of the time cannot start practices prior to 6:00pm. Ms. Reishus thanked him for his efforts and will reach out to him in August as planned.

The Commission agreed that it may be tough but that there may be a coach able to come earlier on those days but agreed it would be difficult since it is not consistent. The Commission agreed to reach out in August as scheduled.

**4.4 Spraying of Town Fields and Wason Pond Conservation and Recreation Area**

Mr. Owens informed the Commission that the Board of Selectmen discussed spraying for ticks at their last meeting. Jay Rowden attended the meeting and read the statement previously read at the last Commission meeting and that Mr. Rowden wanted the opportunity to bring in experts. Mr. Owens reiterated that it was not the intent of the Board of Selectmen to circumvent the process. Mr. Rowden was asked to work with the Commission to research natural methods as a chemical alternative. Mr. Owens informed the Commission that Chuck Myette also spoke on behalf of the Conservation Commission that chemicals may be safe if applied properly but there are always unintended consequences. It was decided that the Commission should look at solutions for next year including experts in the field.

Ms. Reishus informed the Commission that she heard back from Rachel Maccini from UNH who informed her that she is no longer the tick expert and Dr. Alan Eaton is and he has officially retired from UNH Cooperative Extension. Ms. Maccini is going to reach out to him to see if he would be willing to assist us. The Commission discussed having some experts in the field and additional research for the first of the year.

**V. New Business**

**5.1 Appointment of new member – Kendra Kearney**

Ms. Reishus advised the Commission that Kendra Kearney has attended the required three meetings with the Commission.

Vice Chair Hammond made a motion to bring Kendra Kearney forward to the Board of Selectmen for confirmation for a three-year term on the Recreation Commission; Chair Trask seconded the motion. Motion approved, 4-0-0.

Chair Trask confirmed that this will make the Commission a full board of seven members. Discussion regarding when Ms. Kearney and other members of the Commission could attend a Board of Selectmen meeting for the appointment and it was decided that Ms. Reishus will send a letter to the Selectmen requesting to be put on the agenda next Thursday, June 21, 2018 for this purpose.

**5.2 Fall Soccer**

Chair Trask informed the Commission that the British Soccer Camp is held the week after Recreation Program, August 13-17. Soccer Camp will be held at Town Fields. Chair Trask will prepare a list of items needed for start of camp.

Chair Trask discussed Fall Soccer registration which usually begins July 1<sup>st</sup>. They are going to add U18 division from the beginning in order to have programs for older kids. The Commission discussed last years season with some players moving up to field divisions and the impact on the program as a whole. Vice Chair Hammond was adamant that she did not want to micromanage the soccer board. Ms. Reishus reiterated that it falls under Recreation to make sure that the league rules are being followed and this is why there is a liaison from the Commission on boards that are run under Recreation. Chair Trask discussed some issues that happened last year that will not be happening going forward. Mr. Owens said as long as the league rules were being followed he did not see it being an issue moving players up as long as it was not to the detriment of the other divisions. Mr. Pike agreed. Chair Trask is the current liaison for the Soccer Board.

**5.3 Wason Pond Conservation and Recreation Area Parking**

Ms. Reishus informed the Commission that there will be No Parking signs placed from the Ash Street entrance going toward the circle. There are three parking lots – Ballfields, Playground and Community Center. The Ballfields will have four handicap spaces and 4 permitted vehicles spaces. Mr. Owens advised that this was coming from the Fire Chief as a safety hazard as trucks could not pass coming down Ash Street or enter the field through the gate which was being blocked by cars parked. Mr. Owens did not see it as an issue with drop off for the Summer Program as that is just checking in / checking out quickly. Any parking should be done at the parking lots. Ms. Reishus has already sent out an e-mail to the Chester Baseball and Softball Association and they have sent out an e-mail blast to all players regarding parking.

**5.4 Non-Public**

Non-Public, RSA 91 A:3, II (a)

Chair Trask made a motion to go into Non-Public session under RSA 91 A:3, II (a); Ms. Oakley seconded the motion. Motion approved, 4-0-0.

The Commission went into Non-Public session at 8:20pm.

Chair Trask made a motion to come out of Non-Public; Mr. Pike seconded the motion. Motion approved, 4-0-0.

The Commission came out of Non-Public session.

Chair Trask made a motion to seal these minutes indefinitely; Ms. Oakley seconded the motion. Roll Call vote: LH - aye, MT - aye, MO - aye, RP - aye.

**5.5 Other**

Vice Chair Hammond gave a brief update on the Wason Pond Conservation and Recreation Commission. They have been working on the possibility of adding security cameras down at Wason but now that there will be a police detail it is no longer a discussion. Mr. Owens updated the Commission that at this time there are no resumes for the Park Ranger position and that they have just increased the rate of pay.

Ms. Reishus informed the Commission that the Summer Program will need some additional help with cleanup since we do not have a full-time maintenance person. Mr. Owens updated the Commission that there are two prospective persons that they will be interviewing for the position. Ms. Reishus added that she has been asked to be part of the hiring team.

Ms. Reishus informed the Commission that the next Town Fair Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 26, 2018. Chair Trask will plan to attend.

The next Recreation Commission meeting is scheduled for June 25, 2018. The Commission discussed the need for this meeting. The Commission decided to cancel this meeting and hold the next Commission meeting on July 9, 2018.

**VI. Adjournment**

Chair Trask adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Recreation Director,  
Corinna Reishus