

**Town of Chester
Recreation Commission Meeting
Monday, November 11, 2019
Municipal Complex
Approved Minutes**

I. Preliminaries

1.1 Call to Order

Chair Trask called the meeting to order for the Town of Chester Recreation Commission (RC) at 7:33 PM.

1.2 Roll Call

RC members present:

Michelle Trask, Chair
Kevin Kistler, Vice Chairperson
Leslie Hammond
Maria Oakley

RC members absent:

Melinda Mafera
Kendra Kearney
Jeremy Owens, BOS Liaison

Staff present:

Recreation Director Corinna Reishus

Guests:

II. Review and Approve Minutes from September 23, 2019 meeting

The Commission reviewed the minutes from September 23, 2019.

Chair Trask motioned to accept the September 23, 2019 minutes. Ms. Hammond seconded the motion, with three in favor and one abstention by Vice-Chair Kistler, and none opposed the motion was approved 3-0-1.

III. Reports

3.1 Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee

Mrs. Oakley reported the Fall Festival was very successful with a good turnout of approximately 200-400 people. There was a police detail and parking could be improved. The Boy Scouts' fundraiser was successful. The house needs to be ADA compliant with the bathroom and ramp.

3.2 Wason Pond Conservation and Recreation Commission (WPC&RC)

Mrs. Reishus noted the portables were pulled for the winter. Ms. Hammond noted the shed has been cleared of some soccer items.

IV. Old Business

4.1 Annual Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Update

Chair Trask advised the Planning Board removed the following items from the CIP:

20-21 Fitness Trail

20-21 Picnic Tables

21-22 Mobile Concession Stand

23-24 Town Tennis Courts

25-26 Construct Playground

Mrs. Reishus provided a copy of the email from Planning Coordinator Hadik which noted the reasons the projects were removed as not qualifying; classifying the project as more of a want than a need; and no fully vetted or approved proposed locations. The Commission may need to go to Rockingham County Conservation District (RCCD) for approval. Chair Trask will go to the Conservation Commission's next meeting on Tuesday.

Mrs. Reishus indicated she attended the Board of Selectman's meeting on November 7, 2019 to express the Commission's frustration over policies that change from year to year; and to question why projects that are to be paid through impact fees are being removed and reconsidered without a vote after advising the Commission to submit a letter requesting release; and that if the letter was received prior to the adoption of Table 10 on November 20, 2019 they would be approved for release.

Mrs. Reishus provided the Commission with a copy of the 2020-2027 Project Request & Evaluation Form and noted picnic tables and mobile concession stand are currently on the Table 10. If moving forward a motion to release impact fees would be required prior to accepting the revised Table 10 (with deletions).

Mrs. Oakley motioned to expend impact fees to purchase picnic tables up to \$5,000. Chair Trask seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

4.4 Chester Baseball and Softball Program Dugout Project/WP Field Work

i. Wason Fields

Mrs. Reishus reported she met with Seth Theokas. The Baseball Board met and are interested in getting the soil from Recreation but have neither the resources for the labor or finance to spread the material. Mrs. Reishus noted it could be posted to get parents to come out and volunteer and will try to get the material moved before this weekend. Vice-Chair Kistler indicated volunteers should be lined up ASAP. Mr. Kistler recommended a field assessment may be the next step.

Mrs. Hammond motioned to use available funds to do the fields project. Vice-Chair Kistler seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

ii. Town Fields

Mrs. Reishus has received no update on the Dugout Project scheduled for completion this Fall.

iii. MPR

Mrs. Reishus was informed baseball would be using the MPR for t-ball and rookie age only going forward.

4.5 2019-2020 Chester Recreation Basketball Program

Mrs. Reishus reported registration ended on Friday for all divisions except in-hour K-2 program. There is a Lamprey River Basketball meeting tomorrow. Middle and high school level divisions are remaining in this league. Mrs. Reishus was not in favor of 9' hoops. There is a new 3 on 3 league for 3rd and 4th grades. Mrs. Oakley asked how many signed up for 5-6 and Mrs. Reishus reported 20.

4.6 MPR Water Fountain

Mrs. Reishus reported she confirmed the Selectmen approved release of impact fees for this project on November 7, 2019 and scheduled the contractor to perform the work.

4.7 MPR Netting

Mrs. Reishus reported she contacted two companies to provide an estimate for the work, one company came out and looked at the room and measured, the other company will not come out.

Mrs. Reishus noted she will need to know what baseball intends to do in the MPR as the batting cage may not be sufficient for the stage wall. Purchasing two nets to place on each end may be sufficient for mini games with bases. Mrs. Hammond noted she was not in favor of the project if no one will use it. Mr. Kistler noted it made sense to protect one wall which was not concrete. Mrs. Reishus indicated they will move forward and if there is money left, they can do the floor mats.

4.8 Chester Soccer Wrap-up

Mrs. Reishus thanked Bottomline Technologies on behalf of Chester Soccer for the \$90 donation on behalf of Ed Lombardi as part of their Employee Choice Charitable Giving Program.

Ms. Hammond reminded players can't play in the playoffs if they have played less than two games during the season. U-12 won their playoffs. U-8 needs nets at Wason.

Mrs. Reishus noted portables have been removed from all locations for the winter season.

Mr. Kistler asked if anyone had made use of the screen that was purchased by Recreation and Mrs. Reishus noted no one had so far.

Mrs. Reishus noted field hockey may have a Recreation league this spring.

V. New Business

5.1 Election of Recreation Commission Chair and Vice Chair - Tabled

5.2 Commission Terms: Leslie (4/20), Kevin (6/20), Kendra and Michelle (5/21)

5.3 2019 Reappointments of Maria and Melinda (12/19)(will need to be voted in next month to renew)

5.4 Yoga for Emotional Wellbeing During the Holiday Season

Mrs. Reishus reported the introductory session of Family Yoga did well and another four-week session, which cost money up front but is breaking even now and will run along with another four-week series of Gentle Yoga & Mindfulness November 20-December 11. Teen/Tween yoga had only a couple sign up.

VI. Adjournment

Next Meeting: December 9, 2019 at 7:30 PM

Chair Trask adjourned the meeting at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Daniel Hoijer,
Recording Secretary