

**Town of Chester
Technical Review Committee Meeting
Monday, February 6, 2023
Town Hall Meeting Room
Approved Minutes**

I Preliminaries

**9:00am Call the Meeting to Order
Roll Call**

**Chairman's Additions or Deletions
Approval of Minutes – December 5, 2022**

Applications:

Chester Academy PTA 5K & Luau Fundraiser – 6.10.23 -- Wason Pond

Couture Family Christmas Celebration – 12.17.23 – Stevens Hall

Any Other Business:

Stevens Hall User's Proposed Time Change

Chester Academy Field Day

Date of Next Meeting & Adjournment

1.1 Call to Order

Chairman Bunker called this meeting of the Technical Review Committee (TRC) to order at 9:03am.

1.2 Roll Call

Members Present

Myrick Bunker, Building Inspector; TRC Chair
Paul Cavanaugh, Maintenance Director
Victor Chouinard, Conservation Commission
John Dalrymple, Health Officer
Andrew DiPerri, Chester PD Corporal / PD Designee
Debra Doda, Town Administrator
Andrew Hadik, Town Planner
Justin Paquette, Chester PD Lieutenant / PD Designee
Corinna Reishus, Recreation Director / Facilities;
Caroline Wilson, Building AA; Secretary

Members Absent

Chester Academy Designee
Aaron Berube, Police Chief; TRC Vice Chair
Stephen D'Angelo, Selectman
Phil Gladu, Fire Chief
Mike Oleson, Road Agent
James Piper, Supervisor of Roads

Others Present at Various Times

Taylor Boutin, Chester PTA / Playground Committee
Steve Couture, Resident
Chris Hadik, Wason Pond Commission
Danielle Taliento, Chester PTA / Playground Committee

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54 **1.3 Chairman's Additions or Deletions**

56 Vice Chair Reishus added Stevens Hall user proposed time change and Chester Academy Field
Day to *Any Other Business*.

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58 **II. Old Business**

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60 **2.1 Approval of Minutes – December 5, 2022**

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The draft minutes of December 5, 2022 were distributed to members prior to the meeting.

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64 **Maintenance Director Cavanaugh moved to accept the Technical Review Committee**
66 **minutes of December 5, 2022 as written; Town Planner Hadik seconded the motion. The**
68 **vote was eight in favor with Mr. Chouinard abstaining and six members absent; motion**
carried.

70 **III. New Business**

72 **3.1 Chester Academy PTA 5K & Luau Fundraiser – 6.10.23 – Wason Pond**

74 Ms. Taylor Boutin and Ms. Danielle Taliento of the Chester Academy (CA) PTA & Playground
Committee appeared before the TRC to discuss the fundraising event to update the 20-year-old
76 playground.

78 The PTA hopes to use Wason Pond Conservation & Recreation Area to host a 5K foot race and
Luau with pig roast on Saturday, June 10th from 7am-5pm. Volunteers will be setting everything
80 up and breaking everything down. The CA band will provide music, and there will be an auction.
Porta-Johns will already be on premises, but the PTA will arrange an additional cleanout. Two
82 EMTs will be set up onsite with the Gator vehicle.

84 Ms. Carolyn O'Cull (not present) already spoke with Police Chief Berube (not present), who
determined that Police detail would not be required. Cpl. DiPerri explained that this was
86 because the event would be contained within the bounds of Wason Pond and there would not
be any alcohol allowed on premises. However, after further discussion at this meeting, it was
88 suggested that if the attendance will be greater than 100, a detail may be recommended.

90 Attendee parking will be at the playground and volunteer parking will be at the Community
Center. Ms. Boutin and Ms. Taliento are not sure if shuttle buses will be offered.

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92 Recreation Director Reishus and others urged the event organizers to consider that Wason
94 Pond will be very busy on a Saturday in June; if the organizers wish to make any portion of the
event private, they will need to request this from the BOS as soon as possible. It was noted
96 that, historically, the only event that the BOS have allowed to have priority at any single time is
the Wason Pond Pounder.

98

98 The entire scope of the pig roast is unknown at this time, but the applicants are urged to consult
100 Chester Fire regarding this portion of the event.

102 Participant / attendee fees relative to the legality of the Wason Pond recreational immunity was

discussed. While attendees cannot legally be charged to attend the event, participants can be charged to race in the 5K, and donations for food can be accepted. Reaching out to counsel was suggested.

Recreation Director Reishus added that she has not yet approved any Wason Pond field use requests for this spring; she plans on keeping the fields clear for the June 10th event.

It was noted that the large tent that the Scout Troop usually installs for Summer Program probably won't be up yet.

Conservation Commission Chair Chouinard inquired about the 5K route(s). He explained that the Town does not manage the Wason Pond conservation easement. However, the Conservation Commission is the liaison for the Rockingham County Conservation District (RCCD), who does manage the easement. Mr. Chouinard suggested that if the route is on the established trails, that will probably be fine. However, if any deviation is to occur, the event organizers would need to obtain permission.

Wason Pond Commission Chair Chris Hadik noted that the event organizers are also on the agenda for the upcoming Wason Pond Conservation & Recreation Committee meeting.

TRC recommends the applicant consult with Conservation, Fire, Maintenance, Recreation / Facilities, and Administration departments for this event.

Ms. Boutin and Ms. Taliento departed the meeting at 9:20am.

3.2 Couture Family Christmas Celebration – 12.17.23 – Stevens Hall

Steve Couture appeared before the TRC to discuss holding his family's annual Christmas party at Stevens Hall this December. The festivities include a potluck meal, drinks, and presents with Santa Claus. Mr. Couture already received permission from the BOS to allow alcohol with a police detail in attendance at this event.

Recreation Director Reishus explained that this event was flagged for discussion by the TRC because there will be an estimated 75-80 attendees. Mr. Couture explained that since it's a family event, there will be fewer cars. Overflow parking onto Chester Street was discussed; as long as a winter storm is not occurring at the time of the party, the winter parking ban will not be enforced.

TRC recommends the applicant consult with Fire, Maintenance, Police, and Recreation / Facilities departments for this event.

Mr. Couture departed the meeting at 9:25am.

3.3 Any Other Business

3.3.1 Stevens Hall User's Proposed Time Change

Vice Chair Reishus received a request to change a weekly usage time for Stevens Hall beginning in March. A longtime user has been occupying Stevens Hall on Sunday afternoons for years, but now wishes to hold their weekly event at 10:00am. The TRC discussed the many implications that this time change may bring, and the bottom line is that the user should be

invited to discuss their request at next month's TRC meeting.

Of prime concern is that the weekly event attracts 75+ patrons. With parking constraints already an issue, 10:00am on Sunday is most challenging because the Congregational Church and the Olde Post Restaurant are both open and use Stevens Hall for overflow parking. It was estimated that Stevens Hall only really has about 12 of its own parking spots.

Recreation Director Reishus will invite the user to the March 6th TRC meeting.

3.3.2 Chester Academy Field Day

Vice Chair Reishus mentioned that Chester Academy plans to use "bouncy house" type inflatables at Field Day this year. It was agreed that the group doesn't need to come back to TRC for this event, but additional indemnification release for the inflatables may be required.

IV. Adjournment

The next TRC meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 6, 2023, at 9:00am in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

Maintenance Director Cavanaugh moved to adjourn the meeting; Town Administrator Doda seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Caroline Wilson, Secretary