

Yorktown Recreation Commission  
Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Town Hall Board Room

Commissioners Present: Chairperson Matt Talbert, Commissioner Diego Jaramillo, Commissioner Joe Falcone, Commissioner Thomas Dunn, Commissioner John Campobasso

Also Present: James Martorano Jr, Superintendent of Recreation; Marissa Lieto, Assistant Superintendent of Recreation

Absent: Vice Chairperson Patrick Cumiskey, Commissioner Christine Dunn; Luciana Haughwout, Town Board Liaison

Chairperson Talbert called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Approval of the July 6<sup>th</sup> and September 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes: **Commissioner Campobasso makes a motion to approve the July 6<sup>th</sup> and September 7<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. All present vote in favor of the motion. Motion passes.**

Granite Knolls Stone Dust Area Discussion:

Chairperson Talbert leads the commission on a discussion surrounding the reimagining of the stone dust area at Granite Knolls Park and presenting ideas to the Town Board. Suggestions included volleyball court or fitness area where the surface would remain permeable. **The Commission agrees to ask the Town Board for a discussion regarding the park area and to request a deadline for any projects that are to take place in that area.**

Name Changes of Parks Continued Discussion:

Superintendent Martorano prefaces the discussion with the 1994 Town Board minutes which states the park on Veteran's Road as the 'Jack DeVito Veterans Memorials Field and Track'.

Veteran's Advisory Board provides the Commission with their proposal and recommendations to the Commission and Town Board regarding the name of three park areas. The Board requests to be consulted for future proposals or changes to park names that include veteran memorials.

John DeVito and family provide a history of the park, the naming of the park and the creation and donation of the gazebo. The DeVito family requests the Commission to not recommend any changes to the current name of the park and let it remain as "Jack DeVito Veterans Memorial Field and Track".

**The Commission recommends the Veteran's Advisory Board to eliminate the section of their proposal regarding the Jack DeVito Veterans Memorial Field and Track and present the revised proposal to Town Board.**

Field Rental Rates and Structure 2024/2025:

The Commission discusses potential changes in turf field rental rates for 2024/2025 with any increases to rates being reflected in the amount being put into the TE account. **Commissioner**

**Campobasso agrees to present updated turf rates/structure to be voted on in the November meeting.**

Superintendent Martorano makes recommendation to the Commission to charge \$5/hour for grass fields. The Commission discusses alternative ideas such as charging for weekend field preparations. **Commissioner Jaramillo agrees to present updated grass field rates/structure to be discussed and voted on in the November meeting.**

Pickleball/Tennis Rates 2024:

The Commission agrees to update Pickleball/Tennis Pass rates pending the creation of the trust account for court maintenance.

The Commission defers to Pickleball Liaison Lynne Withers regarding appropriate pricing for the 2024 Pickleball/Tennis passes. Lynne Withers suggests resident rate remain the same at \$40, in-state non residents to be increased to \$150, and the addition of a monthly out-of-state rate of \$75. Assistant Superintendent Lieto states she will research the capabilities of the Community Pass registration system to implement the additional designation between in-state and out-of-state nonresidents.

Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Martorano provides updates to the Commission on the following:

- Railroad Park trees cleared and working with Tree Commission to purchase new trees
- Donated benches have been installed
- Shrub Oak Stream: Water and Sewer Departments missed the deadline to put in the stone and may need to be postponed until spring. After the rain, a number of trees along the stream bank are now leaning and will need to be cut. Will be working with Tree Commission to find suitable trees to plant along bank for support.
- Pools drained and working on sealing tile
- 5-year vehicle plan has been updated
- Purchasing mini-excavator
- 5910 engine to be purchased
- Beaver Ridge preliminary plans
- Blackberry Woods courts need repair
- Updates on T&A: \$123,000 not including the money set aside for the Blackberry Woods playground replacement.
- Light project installation starts December 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Commission discusses the fund allocated for the Blackberry Woods playground.

**Commissioner Campobasso makes a motion to postpone the Blackberry Woods playground project. Commissioner Jaramillo seconds the motion. All present vote in favor of the motion. Motion passes.**

Liaison Reports:

Jane and Walt Daniels, NY/NJ Trail Conference:

Jane Daniels informs the Commission of 2 bridges that required repairs following the heavy rainfall, which they had reached out to Superintendent Martorano regarding boards and supplies.

Jane Daniels provides the Commission information regarding a handicapped trail at Sylvan Glen. Not including the parking area, materials for the trail would cost around \$4,000 if Highway was able to provide item and around \$12,000 if the item needed to be purchased. Jane Daniels states she is willing to apply for a grant through the NY/NJ Trail Conference. The Commission would like Jane and Walt Daniels to reach out to the landowners nearby. Jane Daniels informs the Commission they are working towards finding people to take over their responsibilities in the future when they decide to step down.

Tom Regan, YAC:

Tom Regan asks for clarification on when field rates will be set for the 2024 season. The Commission informs Tom Regan that rates will be voted on in the November meeting. Tom Regan asks to be provided clarification of Parks & Recreation program field usage.

Al French, YYSC:

Al French informs the Commission that Hunterbrook Fields are in bad shape and in need of top soil to level out and be seeded. The Commission states they are planning to revitalize the facility following the approval of the Toll Brothers project.

Lynne Withers, Pickleball:

Lynne Withers asks about the status of the pickleball fence repair/replacement. The Commission states they are waiting to see if the existing fence would need to be removed in order to resurface courts.

Lynne Withers informs the Commission that there has been increased parking on the Shrub Oak International School private road.

Dan Kelly and Rick Ciazzo, SOAC:

Rick Caizzo asks about using the Granite Knolls baseball outfield. The Commission will review in old business.

Chair's Report: N/A

New Business:

Chairperson Talbert discusses the Legacy sinkhole that occurred on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Embridge responded quickly and determined that it was soil settling. They filled, hayed and seeded the area.

Old Business:

Legacy Turf Project:

The Commission discusses the Legacy Turf project. The timeframe outlined in the bid is December to April 1<sup>st</sup>, but will have updated information regarding the park closure when all bid responses have been received and reviewed.

Granite Knolls Solar Project:

The Commission discusses the Granite Knolls Solar project. There is a possibility that both Granite Knolls and Legacy parks will be closed simultaneously. The Commission will keep all clubs informed of the proceedings of both projects.

Food Trucks and Concessions:

The Commission discusses food trucks and concessions at the parks. The Commission agrees to go out to bid for all 4 locations (Granite Knolls, Legacy, Shrub Oak Pool and Junior Lake Pool) with exclusions regarding tournament dates when clubs will be fundraising. The Commission agrees to move forward with the Town Attorney and present next meeting.

Granite Knolls Turf Baseball Field usage:

The Commission reviews the motion from the September meeting regarding the Granite Knolls turf baseball field being used for baseball only.

**Motion to adjourn at 10:00pm**