

Yorktown Recreation Commission  
Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024  
Town Hall Board Room

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

Also Present: James Martorano Jr, Superintendent of Recreation; Marissa Lieto, Assistant Superintendent of Recreation; Councilwoman Luciana Haughwout, Town Board Liaison; Councilman Sergio Esposito

Absent: Vice Chairperson John Campobasso, Commissioner Patrick Cumsikey

Chairperson Talbert called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Approval of the April 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes: **Commissioner Tom Dunn makes a motion to approve the April 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Joe Falcone seconds the motion. Chairperson Matt Talbert, Commissioner Diego Jaramillo, Commissioner Joe Falcone, and Commissioner Thomas Dunn all vote in favor of the motion. Motion passes.**  
(Commissioner Christine Dunn absent for this motion)

Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Martorano updates the Commission on the following:

- Pool Memberships go on sale this month. Pool ID office hours are posted in the brochure.
- The updated signage at the Atomic War Veterans bridge will have a ribbon cutting scheduled on June 1 at 10am
- The renaming of the Granite Knolls Recreation & Sports Complex to Tom Diana Park at Granite Knolls Recreation & Sports Complex will be on June 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am followed by the renaming of a portion of East Main Street to the Supervisor Tom Diana Memorial Highway on June 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:45am.
- Pool opening dates approaching: tile work going well. One of the backwash pumps at Shrub Oak needs replacement.
- Playgrounds have new mulch
- Majority of the benches surrounding the Jack DeVito Veterans Memorial Track & Field have been replaced with memorial benches. Further memorial bench requests will need to be at another location.
- A memorial bench for Justin has been installed at Jack DeVito Veterans Memorial Track & Field and a memorial tree has been planted at Turkey Mountain with a water donut to water the tree. Hikers have been kind enough to bring extra water to fill the donut.
- Doing research on code locks for the tennis and pickleball courts. Look into cameras at other court locations.
- Chairperson Talbert – looking at Rec times, a scheduling system for grass and turf fields which would create invoices and a more efficient method for scheduling the fields.

### Town Board Liaison Report:

Luciana Haughwout discusses the following with the Commission:

- Pickleball court resurfacing approved and bid awarded. Looking into the addition of a pickleball budget line
- Rec fees update: Proposed \$8500 a door with no land or option of \$4000 a door plus active land or manageable passive land. Next Town Board meeting will discuss these proposed changes with public.
- Revitalization of pocket parks
- Proposed cell tower near 109 Granite Springs Rd requires the alienation of park land. Town Board Liaison Haughwout acknowledges the proposal should have come before the Recreation Commission prior. Town Board Liaison Haughwout will send the Commission information regarding the agreement.

Chairperson Talbert inquires if there is an interest in resurrecting the solar panel project at the Granite Knolls Recreation & Sports Complex. Town Board Liaison Haughwout will discuss with the Town Supervisor and the Town Board.

Town Board Liaison Haughwout informs the Commission that the Climate Smart Task Force is currently working on finalizing an RFP regarding rooftop solar on municipal buildings.

Chair's Report: N/A

### Liaison Reports:

Lynne Withers, Pickleball:

Lynne Withers would like the Commission to update the wording on the guest policy section of the Tennis & Pickleball Rules & Regulations to include no guests between 9am and 12pm.

The Commission informs Lynne Withers there was a Town Board resolution awarding the court bid to Derosa.

Al French, YYSC: N/A

Mike McDonald, NY/NJ Trail Conference:

Mike McDonald asks if there has been an update regarding the flooding at Sylvan Glen.

Superintendent Martorano explains Dominic Monopoli, Park Foreman, has attempted to clear the blockage causing the flooding multiple times.

### Public Comment:

Dan: Informs the Commission and Superintendent Martorano that the basketball courts at Railroad Park are filthy.

### New Business:

Garden Club:

The Garden Club inquires about getting water to the 202/Baldwin Rd area. The Lions Club provided the Garden Club donations to help fund the removal of old plants and the replanting of native perennials and are now not getting water due to the unsafe location.

Superintendent Martorano informs the Garden Club and the Commission that the area in question is not park land and therefore parks employees should not be responsible for maintaining the area.

The Commission maintains the decision that the watering of plants in that location is not the responsibility of the Parks Department and recommends the Garden Club inquire the installation of a water spicket with drip hose in the location which would result with no individuals being in danger.

Town Board Liaison Haughwout informs the Garden Club she will discuss the possibility of getting water to that location and determining the responsibility of maintaining the location. Chairperson Talbert expresses this is no longer a Parks and Recreation concern.

Chairperson Talbert informs the Commission of a meeting with a company interested in the monetization of pickleball at Downing Park, utilizing a lease agreement similar to The Links Golf Course. The company is interested in building a new building for indoor pickleball in the area of Downing Park where the Parks Department is currently located. They also discussed the building of a new maintenance building in the lower part of Downing Park to relocate the Parks Department.

The company plans to present to the Recreation Commission. The Commission states they would like to have the plans about a week before the presentation in order to become familiar with the content.

#### Old Business:

The Revitalization of The Veteran Memorials Circle:

Chairperson Talbert informs the Commission The Veteran Memorials Circle should have water available at its location by August.

Site visit to be scheduled with Superintendent Martorano, Park Foreman Monopoli and the Garden Club to discuss the water plan and stone removal.

The Garden Club states they will provide Superintendent Martorano a maintenance plan once the funding has been established, estimated to be June/July.

**Commissioner Tom Dunn makes a motion to approve the Garden Club's plan to revitalize The Veteran Memorials Circle. Commissioner Falcone seconds the motion. All present vote in favor of the motion. Motion passes.**

Concessionaire Bid: Commissioner Falcone requests an update on the concessionaire bid. Superintendent Martorano informs the Commission the Bid is out.

RFQ for Shrub Oak Pool: Superintendent Martorano and Chairperson Talbert inform the Commission the RFQ draft has been sent to the Town Attorney and would like to have it on a Town Board Meeting Agenda as soon as possible.

Garden of Hope: Superintendent Martorano informs the Commission that they are working with the Tree Commission to extend water access to expand tree bank at the Garden of Hope.

Shrub Oak Stream Project: Superintendent Martorano provides the Commission an update on the Shrub Oak stream project. The project will be done in house. Met with Town Engineer earlier this week to finalize the plan. Project to begin on Monday (5/6).

Renaming of Granite Knolls Recreation & Sports Complex: Superintendent Martorano updates the Commission that the sign for Tom Diana Park at Granite Knolls Recreation & Sports Complex is complete and will be installed later in May.

FamJam: Commissioner Tom Dunn updates the Commission on FamJam. The event was a great success this year, with an expected date for 2025 being April 26. Commissioner Tom Dunn requests information on the process to become a Town Sponsored event or have the town take on the fees for the employees.

Town Councilman Esposito explains the Town has a special event budget line for certain events and that Fam Jam representatives would have to attend a Town Board meeting requesting to partner with the Town for each event.

Relay for Life: Chairperson Talbert asks if Relay for Life will need to request to waive their fees again this year. Councilman Esposito mentions that there may have been a resolution regarding this situation and will look into it to confirm.

2025 Budget: Superintendent Martorano informs the Commission of the 2025 budget discussion timeline to begin in June and completed by August.

Commissioner Christine Dunn reminds Superintendent Martorano to have supporting information on the special event and overtime budget line when discussing the new budget.

Veteran's Advisory Committee: The Recreation Commission will write a memo to the Town Board stating their recommendation to rename Patriot Garden to The Veteran Memorials Circle.

Motion to Adjourn at 9:15pm.