

Yorktown Recreation Commission
Thursday, September 5th 2024
Town Hall Board Room

Commissioners Present: Chairperson Matt Talbert, Vice Chairperson John Campobasso, Commissioner Joe Falcone, Commissioner Thomas Dunn (Joins at 7:08pm), Alternate Commissioner Antonio Galvao

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

Absent: Commissioner Diego Jaramillo, Commissioner Christine Dunn, Commissioner Patrick Cumsikey

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

Approval of the Meeting Minutes: Postponed

The Veteran's Memorial Circle Revitalization by Garden Club:

Garden Club representatives Lina Lobo and Jenny Bonniello thank the Parks and Recreation Department, Park Foreman Dominic Monopoli and Superintendent Martorano for their help and support with the project's progress.

Removal of existing plants has been complete and plan to plant new plants soon with the hope to be complete by end of October.

Superintendent Martorano shares with the Commission that the Garden Club and the Town Grant writer are working on a Hudson Valley Greenway Grant application.

Councilwoman Siegel informs the Commission and Superintendent Martorano that the Town Supervisor will need to close out any previous Greenway programs prior to submitting the application.

Superintendent's Report:

- Recreation Department Offices: Superintendent Martorano informs the Commission of the current Recreation office situation. Following a series of mold spore tests and inspection by CSEA, it has been determined the offices at Sparkle Lake are unacceptable and unhealthy. The department has moved temporarily to Junior Lake Poolhouse while new offices are constructed in the Albert A Capellini Community and Cultural Center. The Town Comptroller and Town Supervisor determined the remediation of the damage at the Sparkle Lake offices was too high and relocation of the department was decided.
- Camp Update: The final numbers of camper registration provided as follows:
Yorktown Full Day: 260
Lakeland Full Day: 112
Half Day: 100
Extended Day: 40
Travel Camp: 30
Superintendent Martorano discusses some minor issues dealt with throughout the camp season, such as counselor behavior and work ethic and expressed the need for more

intensive training for summer camp staff members to ensure a high quality of care. Staff rates and incentive ideas discussed as well. The 2024 Camp budget was fully utilized and increasing in staff rates and trainings will need to be accounted for in the 2025 budget.

- 2025 Budget: Superintendent Martorano informs the Commission the 2025 budget was submitted, with the first meeting with the Town Supervisor and Town Comptroller set for September 6th.
- Pool Coping/Siding Update: \$600,000 set aside for the Shrub Oak Pool coping/siding project. Currently weighing the options of materials. Granite is more expensive with a longer lifespan, while PVC is more affordable however the lifespan is untested and may deteriorate with sun exposure.
- Pickleball Court Update: Superintendent Martorano to add fence replacement to the project. The Town Attorney and Town Clerk disagreed on whether this could be added as a change order. Superintendent Martorano will be putting out a RFP for the fencing.

Town Board Liaison Report: Councilwoman Susan Siegel:

- Pool Coping/Siding: Councilwoman Siegel informs the Commission there will be a push to make a final decision on the material for the pool coping/siding project during the September 10th work session. Once a decision is made, the project can go out to bid and work possibly completed in early Spring.
- Recreation Fees: Vice Chairperson Campbasso requests an update on the Rec fees for new construction. Councilwoman Siegel informs the Commission she has requested the information from Councilwoman Luciana Haughwout. Councilwoman Siegel recommends the Commission monitor the Planning Board, be present at meetings and express their recommendations and concerns to the Planning Board directly in regards to decisions about rec fees. Commissioner Thomas Dunn expresses to Councilwoman Siegel that he has heard certain comments at public Planning Board meetings regarding these decisions.
- Chairperson Talbert informs Councilwoman Siegel on 3 memos sent to the Town Board with Recreation Commission recommendations. Councilwoman Siegel states she will put suggestions forward and get back to the Commission.
 - Land Swap – Gupta family.
 - Cross Court – approved to move forward and present to Town Board.
 - Land donation at Mohegan Lake.

Chair's Report:

- Recreation Department Offices: Chairperson Talbert states the recreation staff are handling the office situation well. There is an announcement on Facebook about the department being at Junior Lake Pool. Superintendent Martorano currently still working out of the Sparkle Lake office to cover the phones as call forwarding hasn't been completed yet.

Liaison Reports:

Tom Regan, YAC: Fall sports open

Superintendent Martorano requests all field users be courteous to each other during field changeover by packing up 5 minutes prior to field rental time is up and the next field user

waiting until the previous is fully cleared off the field before entering to avoid traffic and safety issues. Tom Regan said he will pass it on.

Tom Regan informs Superintendent Martorano that one of the benches needs caps. He will send pictures of the bench.

Al French, YYSC: Provided nets to put up

Superintendent Martorano states he would like to provide a locked AED at Jack DeVito Memorial Field & Track. He will send the information regarding the specific model to Councilwoman Siegel and Town Board.

Mike McDonald, Trails: many down trees and the team is doing a good job cleaning up.

Sylvan Glen Accessible Trail update: Culvert still needs repair. Superintendent Martorano and Mike McDonald to have further discussions regarding the project.

Joe Falcone, Seniors: meetings starting up again. Senior Advisory Committee meetings every third Friday of each month.

New Business:

The Links @ Valley Field: Vice Chairperson Campobasso discusses the recent incident at the golf course. Superintendent Martorano states he spoke to them about unacceptable behavior and hours.

Chairperson Talbert discusses the parking being inadequate and safety concerns due to the inability to get emergency vehicles access to the facility.

The Commission and Superintendent Martorano discuss possible updates to negotiate during the next agreement.

Chairperson Talbert informs the Commission of the Alliance for Safe Kids Run for Recovery 5K scheduled on September 28th at Downing Park.

Councilwoman Siegel inquires the interest in the Granite Knolls parking lot canopy. The Commission is interested in having the project restored.

Commissioner Falcone suggests dedicating the Hole-In-One contest to Sean Patrick Murphy who has recently passed with the blessings of the family.

Councilwoman Siegel proposes scheduling a special meeting with the Town Board to discuss the Parks and Recreation projects.

Old Business:

Sensory Garden: Chairperson Talbert states there has been no updates regarding the proposed sensory garden. There has been no clarification of the grant or plans for the space.

Public Comment: N/A

Motion to Adjourn at 8:36pm.