

Yorktown Recreation Commission
Thursday, October 10th 2024
Sparkle Lake Building

Commissioners Present: Chairperson Matt Talbert, Vice Chairperson John Campobasso, Commissioner Diego Jaramillo, Commissioner Joe Falcone, Commissioner Thomas Dunn, Commissioner Christine Dunn, Alternate Commissioner Antonio Galvao

Also Present: James Martorano Jr, Superintendent of Recreation; Marissa Lieto, Assistant Superintendent of Recreation; Luciana Haughwout, Town Board Liaison (joins meeting at 7:10pm); Susan Siegel, Councilwoman

Absent: Commissioner Patrick Cumsikey

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

Approval of the Meeting Minutes: Vice Chairperson Campobasso makes a motion to approve the June, July and September meeting minutes. Commissioner Falcone seconds. All present vote in favor of the motion. Motion passes.

Playground Replacement:

The Commission and Superintendent Martorano discuss issues with purchasing replacement playgrounds off source well and playground replacements will have to go out to bid, making the process more time consuming.

Vice Chairperson Campobasso notes that the pocket park replacements should be funded by the Town Board, not the Recreation Commission or Parks and Recreation Department.

Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Martorano states the Recreation Department is currently in the process of moving to the Albert A. Capellini Community and Cultural Center and explains the new layout of the offices with Monday 10/21 being the first official date of being operational within the new offices.

Town Board Liaison Haughwout states she is an advocate for a permanent Recreation Department Office and Senior Center combination location back at Sparkle Lake.

Councilwoman Susan Siegel explains the agreement with Beaver Ridge in regards to a Recreation Department Office building.

Superintendent Martorano explains the Mount Pleasant center as an example of a combination Recreation Office and Senior/Community Center combination.

Vice Chairperson Campobasso expresses interest in having the Recreation Office being with the Parks Department.

Superintendent Martorano states to the Commission the meeting with Beaver Ridge, Unicorn and Town Supervisor Lachterman in which Unicorn seems to be adding restrictions to the parking. Town Board Liaison Haughwout expresses she should be included in future meetings such as this.

Commissioner Falcone expresses concerns about the Capellini building location not being ideal for the Recreation Department Office during pool and camp registration with there being the potential for registration lines.

Superintendent Martorano discusses a Greenway matching grant the grant writer is helping apply for with The Veteran Memorials Circle in mind.

Superintendent Martorano informs the Commission there are currently 2 vacancies in the Recreation Department. Recreation Assistant and Senior Recreation Leader. Ava Sperling has been hired to fill the Recreation Assistant position and begins 10/21. Senior Recreation Leader position remains vacant.

Superintendent Martorano, the Commission, Town Board Liaison Haughwout and Councilwoman Siegel discuss the NY Forward Grant application for downtown revitalization due October 18th. Past projects include the Rock Hill project and walkable Yorktown. Discuss the possibility to be used towards building a new Recreation Department Office building.

Superintendent Martorano informs the Commission various Parks and Recreation projects will be on the Town Board agenda for October 22nd at 6:30pm at Town Hall. The Commission request to be sent an email reminder.

The Commission discusses the resolution stating a \$1 million addition to the Parks and Recreation capital improvement line, which should be added to the October 22nd meeting.

(Commissioner Christine Dunn and Town Board Liaison Haughwout leave at 7:56pm)

Superintendent Martorano discusses the Accessibility project at the Route 202 ballfields. Cost of the project was factored into the \$1 million addition to the capital improvement line and will meet with the Town Comptroller to determine what the balance of that money is.

Liaison's Reports:

Mike McDonald, NY/NJ Trail Conference: N/A

Al French, YYSC: Nets need replacing at turf fields (junior sized goals by next fall)
2 sets at legacy, 4 sets at granite knolls.

-new field lining paint cans don't fit correctly into the liners.

Lynne Withers, Pickleball: Requests Recreation Department to send out a notice to all users about the upcoming court closure.

-Remind Superintendent Martorano the cabinet needs to move away from the fence

Joe Falcone, Seniors: Senior Advisory Committee meeting scheduled on Friday October 18th at 1:00pm.

Chair's Report:

Chairperson Talbert informs the Commission the bid for the Sparkle Lake building doors has been awarded. Interested in adding a split unit as well to improve the program space.

Chairperson Talbert asks for an update on the rec fees. Councilwoman Siegel states Town Board Liaison Haughwout wants to talk to John Tegeder about her ideas for the changes in the Town Code regarding rec fees.

Chairperson Talbert states there is an interest in a similar code to Peekskill, which includes a solid dollar amount per door. With upcoming projects, it should be taken into account that the Recreation Commission and Town keep losing out on money from new construction by not updating the Town Code. Can be brought up in a work session.

Chairperson Talbert asks for an update on the ATV law. Councilwoman Siegel states it has passed, ATV's are prohibited in Yorktown Parks and now it is a matter of enforcement.

Superintendent Martorano reminds the Commission on the turf field rental rate motion from last November which states the following rates for 2024 and 2025 “with all increases reflecting an increase in the amount going into the turf replacement trust”:

2024
Town Sponsored Club:
\$55.00 per hour field cost
\$30.00 per hour light cost

In- Town Non-Sponsored:
\$155.00 per hour field cost
\$60.00 per hour light cost

Out-of-Town Organization:
\$225.00 per hour field cost
\$60.00 per hour light cost

2025
Town Sponsored Club:
\$60.00 per hour field cost
\$30.00 per hour light cost

In- Town Non-Sponsored:
\$160.00 per hour field cost
\$65.00 per hour light cost

Out-of-Town Organization:
\$230.00 per hour field cost
\$65.00 per hour light cost

The Commission and Chairperson Talbert would like to review the turf replacement line and shelf discussion on 2026 rates until February 2025, with a proposal complete in March and a vote held in April.

Vice Chairperson Campobasso adds that the light bills should be reviewed and broken down to determine if current light usage rates are sufficient.

Granite Knolls Pickleball Court Project:

Superintendent Martorano provides an update on the project with work officially beginning on 10/15. The fence replacement went out to bid with WB fence winning the bid and will begin fence removal. Bid did not include the middle rail of fence and Superintendent Martorano states he will ask WB about a change order to add in.

The Commission discuss selling ad space on windscreens around the courts.

Vice Chairperson Campobasso requests the Trust and Agency balance next meeting.

Motion to adjourn: 8:40pm