

**COVENTRY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1ST, 2016**

The Coventry Parks & Recreation Commission held a regular meeting on Wednesday, June 1st, 2016 in Town Hall Conference Room B. Alternate Member Jillian Miner was seated for Regular Member Antonia Conti. Todd Messier called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

Members Present: Todd Messier, Sean Butler, Marie Gallo-Hall, Jennifer Rodgers, and Jillian Miner.

Members Absent: Antonia Conti.

Others Present: Wendy Rubin, Director of Parks & Recreation and Caterina Merriam, Recreation Supervisor.

Audience of Citizens: None.

Correspondence: None.

Acceptance of Minutes:

Jennifer Rodgers moved to accept the May 4th Public Hearing meeting minutes. Sean Butler seconded. Motion voted in the affirmative by Todd Messier, Jillian Miner, Sean Butler, Jennifer Rodgers and Marie Gallo-Hall. Motion carried.

Marie Gallo-Hall moved to accept the May 4th Regular meeting minutes. Jennifer Rodgers seconded. Motion voted in the affirmative by Todd Messier, Jillian Miner, Sean Butler, Jennifer Rodgers and Marie Gallo-Hall. Motion carried.

Staff Report:

A written Staff Report was distributed to the Commission for their review. Ms. Rubin went on to discuss a few noteworthy items:

- Playful City 2016:
 - We have been deemed a Playful City USA for the 6th year in a row!
- 06238 Community Calendar:
 - The Calendar is up and running, and can be downloaded through the UPTO app. It is a collaboration between Parks & Rec., Human Services, Senior Center, Youth Services and the Library. Letters have been sent to community groups in town for their involvement; the American Legion has added a few events and we have added Coventry Fest and all the Farmer's Market dates.
- Laidlaw:
 - The new field has been seeded and irrigation has been installed.
- Arts as Catalyst Grant:
 - The last proof of the final report is in the works. When it is completed it will be emailed to the Commission.
- Beach Stickers:
 - Stickers went on sale today, June 1st. 49 stickers were sold today, which is about half of what we sold in the entire month of May 2015.
- Camp Wangumbaug:

- Enrollment is on the rise; Week A already has 111 kids enrolled which is our highest opening week in several years. Camp Director Cheri Johnson has been working on conducting staff trainings now that everyone has been hired.
- Father Daughter Dance:
 - Event was held on May 13th and it ran extremely smoothly. New lighting was very well-received and the feedback was positive. Enrollment declined slightly from our usual February date.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

- Church Group Use of Patriots Park:
 - There are two churches that have used Patriots Park in the past, for baptismal services and camp field trips. These include the Christ Lutheran Church in Hebron, and the New Dimension Christian Center out of Hartford. Given that the Commission has recently determined a new fee structure for parking at Patriots Park, Ms. Rubin determined that these issues should be brought to the Commission for their review.
 - Christ Lutheran Church:
 - Polly Simon, Director, submitted a letter, asking for a break in the parking fee (\$35 per vehicle/\$75 per van, under the new rates) as they are a non-profit organization whose mission it is to offer their Camp at an affordable rate for their families. They have historically come at least 8 times per season, paying just for lifeguard services.
 - The Commission discussed the concern for setting precedent, particularly for an out-of-town group. They also acknowledged that we too are a non-profit and have expenses. The Commission agreed to keep the fees at the current rate.
 - New Dimension Christian Center:
 - Reverend Benjamin Santiago submitted a letter, asking for a reservation of the Patriots Park Pavilion during the restricted hours (all private rentals are restricted until after 4pm to accommodate beach parking, during the beach season). They are performing baptismal rights during their picnic, in the Lake. They noted that they continually clean up after their reservation and have reduced the number of vehicles by carpooling their attendees in a van.
 - The Commission discussed the imposition of a rental during the restricted time, and the difficulty of maintaining the space for those who have reserved it. The Commission agreed to allow the group to reserve the Pavilion as requested.

Adjournment: With no other business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 7:41pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Caterina Merriam,
Recreation Supervisor

Please note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Parks & Recreation Commission at the next Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting. Please see the next Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes for approval or changes to these minutes.