

**TOWN OF MANCHESTER, CONNECTICUT  
ADVISORY RECREATION & PARK COMMISSION  
THURSDAY JANUARY 19, 2017  
MINUTES**

Meeting began at 6:05 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Chairman: Tom Tierney; Commissioners: Bob Kilpatrick, Bill Wooldridge, Dennis Cumberbatch; Leisure, Families, and Recreation Director: Chris Silver

**COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Wooldridge and Director Silver both commented on how well the Hall of Fame Clinic had been received, noting positive feedback that they both received from parents and kids alike on how well the clinic was run, and how well the Recreation Dept. staff managed the event.

**MINUTES:**

A spelling error was noted in the November meeting minutes. This error was noted and minutes were then accepted unanimously.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

**RECREATION REPORT:** See attached RECREATION REPORT

Director Silver reported that ice skating at Charter Oak Park will not occur in 2017 due to construction, but will resume in 2018. Weather permitting, ice skating will still be available at Union Pond.

**PARKS REPORT:** See attached PARK REPORT

Director Silver also reported on the status of the Charter Oak Park renovations, and stated that a grand re-opening of the park is tentatively scheduled for July 26, 2017. A second event will include a grand opening of the new Musical Garden playscape, tentatively scheduled for September 9, 2017.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Director Silver reviewed proposed new park signage designs and concepts with Commission members who reacted favorably to the new signage. The expected first locations to receive new signs will probably be Charter Oak Park and the Broad St. entrance into Center Springs Park once construction is completed at both locations.

**Meeting Adjourned at 6:30 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bob Kilpatrick

**Town of Manchester Leisure, Family and Recreation**  
**RECREATION REPORT**  
**Thursday, January 19th**

**Recreation Report**

**Ice Skating in Manchester:** Ice skating will not be available at Charter Oak Park this season due to park renovations. However, ice skating WILL be available at the Union Pond Park Annex on North School Street when ice conditions allow for safe skating. For [plowed] parking, please use the Robertson School lot. Please note that there will be signage at the Union Pond Park Annex location to indicate when skating is allowed, or when ice conditions are not conducive to skating. If you have any questions please call 860-647-3084.

**Winter/Spring Program Registration:** Registration is open to residents and non-residents for January – May programs! Registration can be taken over the phone by calling 860-647-3084, online by visiting [reconline.townofmanchester.org](http://reconline.townofmanchester.org), or in person at the following locations: Center Springs Main Office – 39 Lodge Drive, Community Y Rec Center – 78 N Main Street, or Customer Service at Town Hall – 41 Center Street.

**Jukido:** A co-ed self-defense course incorporating Judo, Aikido and Karate. The Recreation Division offers Jukido for youth ages 6 – 14 as well as those 15 years of age and older! Jukido started last week at the Community Y Recreation Center, so be sure to register today!

**Be the Next Hall of Famer – Basketball Clinic and Lunch:** Between children, staff and Manchester Hall of Fame board members there were 75 people involved in this event at Mahoney Recreation Center on Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup> plus parents and family members. The community loved the clinic and the kids were so excited that Seth DeValve of the Cleveland Browns was able to be one of the guest speakers. Seth and his fiancé even stayed to help clean up! We have received positive emails and social media posts regarding not only the event, but also the staff involvement and planning including Erica Santos and Enrique Lugo.

**Indoor Soccer:** Register your child now for this program to learn the basic skills of soccer such as dribbling, trapping, defense shooting and passing. Children will also learn the concept of teamwork and hard work. Soccer will take place on Sundays from January 22 – March 19, 1:15 – 2:30pm for 5-6 year olds and 2:45 – 4:15pm for 7 – 8 year olds. The fee is \$30.00/\$20.00 second sibling/\$10.00 third sibling.

**Start Smart Basketball:** This program teaches children a variety of basketball skills including: ball handling, shooting, passing, catching and running. An adult must participate with the child. Register now for this program for children ages 3 – 5 on Saturday mornings from February 4 –

March 11. Start Smart Basketball will be held at the Community Y Recreation Center for \$65 residents/\$82 non-residents.

**Center Springs Activity Room:** Register now for current and upcoming sessions of Vinyasa Flow Yoga, Team Fit, Walk Live, Meditation for Beginners and Team Active! All of these great classes will take place in the Center Springs Activity Room at 39 Lodge Drive.

**Adult Fitness at the Community Y:** New sessions of Yoga for Active Lifestyles, Tapercize, Jukido, Pilates, Total Body Plus and Strength for Life are starting this month at the Community Y Recreation Center, so be sure to register soon!

**Pickleball:** There's less ground to cover in this game than other racket sports which makes it easier for players of all ages. Pickleball is available to people ages 30+ and it is held on Mondays and Thursdays at Nathan Hale from 6:00 – 8:00pm. Registration is now open for the new session beginning this month.

**Aquatic Fitness:** The Recreation Division is now offering wonderful aquatic fitness classes this winter/spring such as Aqua Arthritis, Swim for Fitness, Total Aqua, Water Walking, Hydro Fit and Aqua Circuit. Classes have begun, so be sure to register today!

**Adult Lap Swim:** Swimming is one of the best overall body workouts. Build cardio and tone at the same time with our Adult Lap Swim program. Dedicated lap swim time is available early mornings and evenings Monday – Friday at the MHS Main Pool. The new session will begin on January 3<sup>rd</sup> and registration is now open.

**Youth Basketball - Fundamentals of Basketball (93 children registered), Boys Pee Wee (60 children registered and 3 on a waiting list) and Co-Ed Midget (60 children registered and 10 on a waiting list) are going well! Girls Pee Wee registration now closed (29 children registered) and will start on January 21<sup>st</sup>.**

**Men's Indoor Basketball and Women's/Men's/Co-Ed Volleyball going well! Next month we will be reaching out to last year's Summer Adult Softball teams to see who will be returning for the upcoming season which will start at the end of April. We have already gotten some new team interest as well!**

## Park Report – January 2017

### Charter Oak

- Parking lot – 1<sup>st</sup> paving coat down
- Musical garden - Finalized MOU, looking to install by July 1, 2017
- Playground – out to bid
- Fitzgerald press box rebuilt (wood framing, etc)
  
- Nike site – pickle ball court - continue clearing up at site, installed directional sign.
  
- Purnell parking lot plantings: Have planted nearly 1/2 of trees, added topsoil and mulch. Will finish tree planting in Spring.
  
- Laurel marsh parking lot area – thinned and cleared out brush area near entrance so much more visible and inviting.
  
- Broad Street entrance (former asian restaurant), Identifying trees with Kyle and Matt from Planning for RDA plan to go out to bid soon for spring/late spring installation.
  
- Center Springs Park:  
Tree clearing will continue especially creating the path to Edgerton Street. Trail built on south side of pond from Edgerton Street to basketball court.  
Cleared walking path on lower south side of pond – to gain access on south side for fishing, etc.
  
- Ice skating at Union Park:  
Continue to monitor ice and depth/safety daily. Currently closed, was open 1 day last week.
  
- Pruning and cleaning many parks and parklets with little/no snow days as well as fence repairs.