

**TOWN OF MANCHESTER, CONNECTICUT
ADVISORY RECREATION & PARK COMMISSION
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2017
MINUTES**

Meeting began at 6:10 p.m.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Bob Kilpatrick, Bill Gochee, Dennis Cumberbatch, Owen Carroll; Recreation Director: Scott Garman. New Commissioner Jodi Huyler arrived shortly after meeting started.

COMMENTS:

After introductions, Scott Garman reported that Chris Silver would not be at meeting and handed out Parks and Recreation reports.

MINUTES:

The commission did not have a quorum to accept January minutes.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

RECREATION REPORT: See attached RECREATION REPORT

Director Garman reported that the BOD had approved a \$10 increase for this summer's camp fees.

PARKS REPORT: See attached PARK REPORT

Director Garman reported on the status of the ongoing Charter Oak Park renovations, and on the conditions of the Center Springs pier.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

Meeting Adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bob Kilpatrick

Town of Manchester Leisure, Family and Recreation
RECREATION REPORT
Thursday, February 16, 2017

Recreation Report

Summer Camp 2017: Registration packets will be available beginning March 1, 2017 at the following locations – Center Springs Main Office 39 Lodge Drive, Mahoney Recreation Center 110 Cedar Street, Community Y Recreation Center 78 N Main Street, Town Hall Customer Service 41 Center Street, or you can print one online at recreation.townofmanchester.org (March 1st). Summer Camp will be available from June 26 – August 4, 2017 at Bowers, Mahoney, Martin and Robertson for youth ages 5 – 11 (age 5 only if Kindergarten has been completed), Billing for youth ages 11 – 13 and the Community Y for youth ages 13 – 15. For more information on camps please visit us at recreation.townofmanchester.org and click on the Summer Camp Information link!

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 recreation.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.

Holiday Hours: Please note that the following holiday hours and information for Monday, February 20 and Tuesday, February 21: Center Springs Main Office – closed on Monday – open on Tuesday, Bennet Leisure Center – closed both Monday and Tuesday, MHS pools – closed both Monday and Tuesday – no classes/no open swim/no lessons, Pickleball at Nathan Hale will still be held, Community Y – open regular hours and classes will still be held.

Valentines Schmalentines: Join us for this 6th grade semi-formal event at the Bennet Leisure Center on Friday, February 17th from 6:00 – 8:00pm. Pre-register to get on the list by calling 860-647-3084 and then pay \$5.00 at the door on the night of the event. This event is open to all 6th grade students in Manchester!

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 has already started at the Community Y Recreation Center, so be sure to register today!

10am slot FULL Start Smart Baseball: Parents work together with their children (3-5 years) in a supportive environment to learn the basics of sports. Teaches children a variety of baseball skills including throwing, batting, catching, running and agility. Participants should wear sneakers and comfortable clothing. Parent involvement is required. Register now for this program that will take place on Saturdays 10 – 11am/11am – 12pm from April 8 – May 13 at the Community Y Recreation Center.

1 – 3 year old and 4 – 6 year old time slots FULL Aqua Egg Hunt: Children (1 – 10 years) will collect floating and sinking eggs and enjoy a visit from the Bunny. Bring a bucket to collect eggs and then turn them into the Bunny's helper for a prize. Swim attire is required. Children 4 years & under must be accompanied by a parent in the water. Children who are not potty trained must wear a swim diaper in the water. Register now for this great event that will take place on Saturday, April 8th at the Manchester IOH Pool. The 1-3 year old and 4 – 6 year old

time blocks are now full, so visit us on reconline.townofmanchester.org, or call 860-647-3084, to register your 7 – 10 year old today!

Life Guard Training: Through video, group discussion and hands-on practice, learn patron rescue and surveillance skills, first Aid and CPR/AED. Successful candidates will receive a 2 year CPR/AED certification and a 2 year Lifeguard certification. Prerequisites: Must be 15 years of age and pass swimming requirements. Attendance at each class is mandatory. Register now for this certification course at the Manchester High School from 7:30 – 9:30pm on Tuesdays from March 7 – May 30.

Water Safety Instructor (WSI): Get certified to teach swim lessons. Must attend all classes to pass the course. There are prerequisite swimming skills that are required in order to take the course. Participants should come to each class prepared to be in the water. Register now for this certification course at the Manchester High School from 7:30 – 9:30pm on Thursdays from March 9 – June 1.

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 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 started at the Community Y Recreation Center, so be sure to register today!

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. Visit reconline.townofmanchester.org, or call 860-647-3084, to register!

Aquatic Fitness: The Recreation Division is 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! Visit reconline.townofmanchester.org for more detailed information.

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.

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.

Indoor Tennis – We were going to start promoting Indoor Tennis which will take place in April and May, but it had already filled up in January! The April sessions for 4 – 7 year olds and 8 – 12 year olds are full with waiting lists as well as the May sessions. 40 children enrolled in Indoor Tennis and 12 on a waiting list.

Youth Basketball - Fundamentals of Basketball (93 children registered) and Boys Pee Wee (60 children registered and 3 on a waiting list) ending soon and Co-Ed Midget (60 children registered and 10 on a waiting list) is going well! Girls Pee Wee registration now closed (29 children registered) and started on January 21st.

Youth Soccer - Registration now closed. Started January 22nd and going well – 81 children registered out of 96 total openings.

Start Smart Basketball (ages 3 – 5) both time slots full with waiting lists and started February 4th

Men's Indoor Basketball and Women's/Men's/Co-Ed Volleyball going well! We have reached 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. Multiple teams have already responded about returning this year. We have gotten 40 responses with 4 new team interests such as a new Manchester Fire Department team! Teams have until February 17th to send us their intent to return forms and we will accept up to 80 teams total (includes Men's and Co-ed).

Park Report – February 2017

MHS – finalizing punch list, a few miscellaneous items (sand pit/runway covers), fix of a discus pad, will be completed for opening of track season.

-Globe Hollow – installed 3 new sprinklers in shallow end

Charter Oak

-Parking lot – 1st 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)

-Plantings for park done, finalizing mapping with Jeff.

-Nike site – pickle ball court - continue clearing up at site, installed directional sign, installing kiosk.

-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 this season. Lights are \$7,136 (13 lamps).

-Pruning and cleaning many parks and parklets before snow as well as fence repairs.

-Coordinating work with user groups for spring youth groups.

-Drainage fix at Case Mountain dam, will be finalizing stone walk this spring.

-Prepping irrigation for Senior Center greenhouse (opening beginning of March)

-Painting: CSP, NAF, NH, NW Park, Lincoln Center