

TOWN OF MANCHESTER, CONNECTICUT
ADVISORY RECREATION & PARK COMMISSION
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2017
MINUTES

Meeting began at 6:08 p.m.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Chairman Tom Tierney, Bill Wooldridge, Dennis Cumberbatch; Owen Carroll, Leisure, Families, and Recreation Director: Chris Silver.

Absent: Bill Gochee, Robert Kilpatrick and Jodi Kissman.

COMMENTS:

None.

MINUTES:

The minutes for the April meeting were held for the next meeting, as there was not a quorum at tonight's meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A map from Tim O'Neil regarding Bryan's Island renaming to Doug Smith Island was discussed. (Please see attached map). Background on the request and information was given and a more formal request and proposal will be on the agenda for next month's meeting for the Commission to make a final recommendation.

Kyle Sheil of the Planning Department provided a flyer invitation to all Commissioners to attend the Walk In the Park Center Springs Park workshop scheduled for Thurs. Oct. 5, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. at the The Lodge, 39 Lodge Drive to help plan future improvements for Center Springs Park. Please RSVP to Ksiel@manchesterct.gov. Invitation attached.

Dennis C. discussed a concern regarding use of Veteran's field by non-permitted users and cars blocking the emergency access gate. Director Silver explained that they are public parks and are accessible to the public during non-permitted times. It can only be a removal issue of the user if a permittee comes upon the site during their permitted time when a non-permitted group is using it. And also asked that when vehicles blocking the emergency access that the police be contacted.

RECREATION REPORT:

See attached RECREATION REPORT

PARKS REPORT:

See attached PARK REPORT

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bill Wooldridge announced the November 11th Sports Hall of Fame event. Tickets are \$50 each.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christopher J. Silver

Town of Manchester Leisure, Family and Recreation
Upcoming Programs and Events
Wednesday, September 13, 2017

What's Going On In...

Recreation

Alert: Edgerton Street, between house #47 and Lodge Drive along Center Springs Pond, is closed for reconstruction and is projected to reopen November 17th. Please note that you can access the Recreation Main Office at 39 Lodge Drive by following these directions: Main Street to Bigelow Street, left onto Liberty Street, right onto Hemlock Street, left onto Lodge Drive.

Fall Registration: Program registration is now ongoing for both residents and non-residents. Register for programs online at reconline.townofmanchester.org, over the phone by calling 860-647-3084, or at any of the following locations: Center Springs – 39 Lodge Drive, Community Y Rec Center – 78 N Main Street, or Customer Service at Town Hall – 41 Center Street. Payment (if applicable) is due at the time of registration. Check out our full fall schedule now on recreation.townofmanchester.org (Click on the Brochures link!)

Membership: You can obtain your September 2017 – August 2018 passes now at Center Springs Park, Community Y Rec Center and Customer Service at Town Hall. Senior passes can also be purchased at the Senior Center. Please note that youth passes can no longer be processed at the libraries. Proof of residency is required each year when getting a pass. Exciting news! We have brand new wallet sized cards or key chain sized cards that will be renewed year to year without the need to obtain a new card unless one is lost!

Swim Lessons: Recreation is offering swim lessons for youth and beginner lessons for Adults starting the first week of October. Some spots have already filled, so be sure to register soon! For the full schedule please visit our Brochures link on recreation.townofmanchester.org.

Aquatic Fitness: Have you checked out our fantastic aquatic fitness classes yet? The fall sessions of Swim for Fitness, Aqua Arthritis, Total Aqua and Aqua Circuit will be starting the first week of October and registration is open now! No matter what your fitness level or availability, I bet we have an aqua class perfect for you!

Jukido: A co-ed self-defense course incorporating Judo, Aikido and Karate. The main emphasis is on students doing their best! This course is for children ages 6 – 14 on Friday evenings at the Community Y Rec Center. Registration is now open!

Team Fit After Work: Team Fit provides participants with challenging, yet motivating strength and cardiovascular conditioning sessions that include a variety of innovative exercises to improve your overall fitness. This program is designed for all fitness levels, customized to each individual. Register now for Monday or Wednesday sessions at the Center Springs Park Activity Room!

Walk Live Power: Exciting, motivating music along with four basic steps make this walk fun and suitable for all fitness levels! This program is for adults 18+ on Monday evenings at both the Community Y Rec Center and Center Springs Activity Room. Registration is now open!

Nathan Hale Drop In Rec: Drop in basketball, board games, active games, arts & crafts, and more will start Saturday, October 7th at the Nathan Hale Activity Center for children ages 5 -18! There is no fee, but Recreation cards are required.

Start Smart Soccer: Parents work together with their children ages 3 - 5 in a supportive environment to learn the basics of soccer. This program will start on Saturday, October 14th at the Community Y Rec Center and costs \$65.00 for residents and \$82.00 for non-residents. Spots fill quickly, so be sure to register soon!

Adult Boot Camp: Learn and understand the importance of exercising in this program that will impact all parts of the body. Push your body through medium to high boot camp stations. Register now for this great workout taking place on Saturdays at 9:30am at Center Springs Park!

Kids Cupcake Decorating: Kids ages 5 – 10 will love this creative and messy class at the Community Y Rec Center! Join Jessica from the Cupcake Caboose and learn how to make your very own holiday themed cupcakes. All delicious decorating supplies and cupcakes provided. Register now for the Halloween Session taking place Saturday, October 28th from 10:00 – 11:00am. Please note that registration is also now open for the Fall and Winter Cupcake Decorating sessions!

Youth Basketball: Even though youth basketball will not begin until December, registration is now open and mandatory evaluation clinics will begin in November! Be sure to register soon as spots fill quickly. Recreation offers basketball for ages 6 – 7, 8 – 9, and 10 – 12.

Office of Neighborhoods and Families

NEW Spruce Street Market: Have you experienced Manchester's new Spruce Street Market Nights yet? Join us tonight from 5:00 – 8:00pm (rain or shine) for live music, fresh food from local farmers and snacks & goodies from local vendors! If you can't make it this week be sure to join us any other Wednesday night until October 4th! Call 860-647-3089 for more details.

Spruce Street Market Special Event of the Week: Tonight there will be live music by the Hartford Steel Symphony from 6:00 – 7:45pm. Come join us!

Eastside Afterschool Program: Manchester Pal Eastside Youth Academics & Activities Club offers free after school help with homework, studying, and projects for students in grades 1 – 4 that live in the Eastside neighborhood. Students will also get plenty of free time to do crafts, play games/sports, and take part in other group activities before going home for the evening. Call 860-647-3089 for registration details or visit www.manchesterpal.org!

Fall and Winter Gardening: All weather gardening and cold weather crops. Join us for this Spruce Street Community Garden Learnshop on Wednesday, September 13th from 6:00 – 7:00pm. There is no cost and it is open to the public!

Organic Lawn Care: Fall is the best time to improve your lawn for next year! Organic lawn care is low cost, low maintenance and much safer than multi-step programs. In this hands-on workshop, we will discuss soil improvements, lawn seeding, and the full year of care. Register soon for this program on Saturday, September 16th from 9:30 – 11:30am at the Eastside Neighborhood Resource Center.

No Sew Tote Bags: Upcycle that favorite t-shirt that has seen better days into a new tote bag. This is a fun, no sew craft that everyone can enjoy. Bring your own shirt and we will supply the rest! Register now for this program on Tuesday, September 26 from 6:00 – 8:00pm at the Eastside Neighborhood Resource Center.

Youth Service Bureau

Early Childhood Programs: Wonderful programs for children ages 1 – 5 will be starting this month at the Northwest Park Early Childhood Center! Be sure to register soon for programs such as Happy Together, Wonder Years, Wee Two, Cradle to Crayons, Mommy & Me and more!

Mother Daughter Circle: The purpose of the circle is to promote a healthy and sustaining bond between mothers/guardians and their daughters ages 11 – 15 during their transitional years from girlhood to young womanhood. Dinner is provided. Mother Daughter Circle began on Monday from 5:30 – 7:30pm at the Youth Service Bureau. Be sure to register!

Journey “Build a Book”: Journey is designed to increase nature awareness and knowledge and provide community service, social interaction and skill development in art, wood working and research. Participants will write and illustrate elements of a story created during the group. This program will take place on Thursdays starting September 28 from 3:30 – 5:30pm for children ages 12 – 14 (grades 6 – 8) at the Youth Service Bureau. Space is limited, so be sure to register soon!

Park Report -- September 2017

-Charter Oak -- completed, continue to seed areas and water trees/shrubs

-Center Springs Park:

Broad Street entrance -- Seeded w/meadow mix and wild flower now and planting trees and shrubs. Sign installed Friday, 9/15.

-Ball fields: baseball/softball -- adding clay to many infields and renovating a few infields (CO 1 & 2, Leber, NW Park baseball), edging many infields. Soccer -- slit seeded Vets, Kennedy, CO soccer and MHS fields.

-Pools -- fixing minor repairs in pools (leaks, skimmer baskets, etc.) prior to winterizing.

-Bleacher/bench repairs -- have started bleacher and bench repairs at ball fields (wood boards).

-Playgrounds -- inspection and repairs as well as adding playground chips.