

**TOWN OF MANCHESTER, CONNECTICUT  
ADVISORY RECREATION & PARK COMMISSION  
THURSDAY OCTOBER 18, 2018  
MINUTES**

**Meeting began at 6:03 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Commissioners: Tom Tierney, Bob Kilpatrick, Bill Wooldridge, Kathy Reilly, Owen Carroll, Dennis Cumberbatch; Director: Chris Silver.

**COMMENTS:** There was a reminder and brief discussion regarding the Vivian Ferguson dedication ceremony on the Great Lawn this Saturday, October 20. Commission members were invited to attend if possible.

**MINUTES:** The minutes for the September meeting were accepted unanimously.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Commissioner Bill Wooldridge reported that the upcoming Manchester Sports Hall of Fame Banquet for 11/8/18 is a complete sellout.

**RECREATION REPORT:** See attached RECREATION REPORT

**PARKS REPORT:** See attached PARK REPORT

**OLD BUSINESS:** Director Silver reported on ongoing issues related to overuse of some town recreation fields. A BOD proposal to limit out of town usage of fields is being contemplated.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Discussion led by Director Silver on major changes slated for the Robertson School recreation areas to include the construction of a cricket field. The proposed construction has been approved by the BOD, and funds of approximately \$375,000 have been identified for the project. The field will encompass a large portion of what is now a softball field and skateboard park. Changing demographics in the Town have made the conversion of this area a priority to provide new recreational opportunities to Manchester residents. General discussion related to the size of the field, usage, equipment, etc. continued, and Director Silver reported that the Commission will have the opportunity to review plans prior to construction. Anticipated groundbreaking for this project is slated for spring, 2019 with an opening in summer, 2020.

Director Silver also reported on the upcoming construction of a shaded pavilion at the entrance area of Charter Oak Park.

Finally, Commission members were urged to attend the dedication of the Jay Howroyd Fitness Trail at Union Pond on Saturday, October 27.

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bob Kilpatrick

## Park Report

October 2018

### Ball fields

- Dettore Little League field infield is being renovated.
- Nike Site softball field is scheduled for new fencing and infield clay this Fall.
- Clay added to most fields and will be ongoing this Fall.

### Soccer Fields

- Carlin and Veterans 3 fields are being overseeded.

### Trees

- 4 trees have been planted in Center Park, following similar plan to 1952 park tree planting. Another 4 will be this Fall/next Spring.
- 3 trees in East Cemetery have been planted, another 4 will be this Fall/next Spring.

### Charter Oak

- Installed Rotary bricks and replanting some shrubs and trees in Music Garden.

### Center Springs Park

- Replaced trees with contractor in Broad Street/CSP entrance.

### Union – fitness trail

- Planted trees, grass, installed all fitness pieces, 6 new benches, installed stone path pavers, new stone dust for loop trail, 6 picnic tables and shrubs. Bridge and pier are being refinished as well.

**Town of Manchester Leisure, Family and Recreation**  
**Upcoming Programs & Events**  
**Weekly Report Updated: Monday, October 15, 2018**

***Fall is Here!***

**Recreation Division**

**39 Lodge Drive (main office), 860-647-3084**

**Fall Registration & Passes**

**Program Registration:** Please note that fall program registration has begun! Registration can be done online, in person, or over the phone. Payment, when applicable, is due at the time of registration; online and phone registration can be processed using Visa or MasterCard. Our full fall program brochure will be available online in the next couple of weeks at [recreation.townofmanchester.org](http://recreation.townofmanchester.org) by clicking the Brochures link!

**Membership:** The new membership year will be **September 1, 2018 – August 31, 2019**. If you currently have a **2017/2018 membership, be sure to bring your cards with you when renewing**. Membership cards can be obtained at the Center Springs Main Office, Community Y Rec Center and Customer Service at Town Hall. Senior cards can also be purchased at the Senior Center. Please note that youth cards are no longer processed at the libraries. Proof of residency is required each year when obtaining your card to verify current resident status. When getting a youth card, please be sure that the child is present as we still keep updated pictures in our system. Membership cards are valid at all of our rec centers, indoor and outdoor pools, as well as the Fitness Center at the Community Y Rec Center.

**Aquatics**

**Indoor Pool Season:** Indoor pools at MHS are open! Open Swim is available on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings as well as Saturdays. Check our full pool schedule by visiting [recreation.townofmanchester.org](http://recreation.townofmanchester.org) and clicking the Brochure link.

**Hiring Indoor Swim Lesson Instructors:** The Town of Manchester Recreation Division is currently accepting applications for American Red Cross certified Swim Lesson instructors for the indoor swim season. All applicants must be certified as an ARC Water Safety Instructor. Additionally, applicants should be certified in ARC Lifeguarding, CPR/AED and First Aid. Hours would begin in October. Duties include, but are not limited to: teaching swim lessons to infant through Level 6. Pay rates begin at \$13.00/hour. Applicants must submit an employment application via the Town of Manchester. Positions open until filled. This is a part time, hourly position with no benefits.

**Fall Swim Lessons:** Registration has begun and the first swim lessons started this week! Visit our website to review more detailed information on swimming lessons in our program and event catalog.

**Adult Swim Lessons:** Designed for the first time swimmer, or for those who have fear of the water. Classes are held on Saturday mornings at the Manchester High School Main Pool starting October 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Adult Aquatic Classes:** Register now for wonderful programs like Adult Lap Swim, Swim for Fitness, Total Aqua and Aqua Circuit! Be sure to visit our website, or check out our fall catalog, for more information.

**Adult Programming**

**Manchester Means Focus Groups:** The Town of Manchester's Department of Leisure, Family and Recreation (in partnership with KJR Consulting) is building a strategy to increase engagement across the entire community, especially those that have been less engaged in the past, and we want YOUR input! Join us at either WORK\_SPACE or the Mahoney Rec Center on Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm, so that KJR can use your input and perspectives to define goals and build a plan to achieve equity and belonging for everyone in the Town of Manchester.

**Team Fit After Work:** This program 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. Team Fit After Work is held at Center Springs on Monday and Wednesday evenings.

**Walk 15:** Exciting, motivating music along with four basic steps make Walk 15 fun and suitable for all fitness levels! This program is available at both the Community Y Rec Center and Center Springs!

**Pickleball:** There's less ground to cover than other racket sports, making Pickleball easier for players of all ages! Players say it's easier on the body, while still getting in a full workout. The indoor season will be held at the Bennet Leisure Center on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 – 8:00pm and just began this week!

**Adult Fitness:** There are many other options for Adult Fitness classes at the Community Y Rec Center this fall! Register now for classes like Tapercize, Yoga for Active Lifestyles, Strength 4 Life, and more!

*See Aquatics for aquatic fitness, lap swim, swim lesson information, etc.*

### **Youth Programming**

**Jukido:** This co-ed course for youth ages 6 - 14 emphasizes safety and doing one's best. The principles of Karate, Judo and Aikido are introduced such that the techniques do not conflict. Classes are held on Friday evenings at the Community Y Recreation Center starting Friday, October 5th.

**Start Smart Soccer:** Parents work together with their children (ages 3 – 5) in a supportive environment to learn the basics of sport. Start Smart teaches children a variety of soccer skills including dribbling/kicking, trapping, shooting, passing and running/agility. This great program will be held on Saturday mornings at the Community Y Rec Center starting October 13<sup>th</sup>. Open to both residents and non-residents. The 9:00am session still has openings, so be sure to register soon!

**Halloween Social:** Join us for our first social of the season at Bennet on Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 8:30pm. Music by DJ Dale. Costume contests, games, prizes and more! Call the main office at 860-647-3084 to register; \$10.00pp which includes prizes and meal.

**Youth Basketball:** Basketball is available for Manchester youth ages 6 – 12. Mandatory evaluation clinics for ages 8+ will begin in November and play will begin for all ages in December and January. Register now as spots are filling quickly! Visit our website, or check out our full fall catalog, for more detailed information.

**PeaceLove Creative WorkShop:** Participants explore the creative process through challenges such as painting on someone else's canvas, recreating images and using paint brushes in unexpected ways. The workshop closes by encouraging participants to consider the meaning of peace of mind and the ways we each find it. This wonderful new program for children ages 5 – 12 (with a parent) will be held on Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 8:00pm at the Eastside Neighborhood Resource Center, 153 Spruce Street.

**Co-ed Indoor Soccer:** Manchester youth ages 5 – 8 will learn the basic skills of soccer as well as the concepts of teamwork and perseverance. Soccer will be held on Sunday afternoons at the Mahoney Rec Center starting January 20<sup>th</sup>.

*See Aquatics for swim lesson information.*

### **Special Events/Family Programming**

**PumpkinFest:** Join us on Friday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 8:00pm at Charter Oak Park for this Halloween themed evening of spooky fun! Kids can wear a costume for candy and free popcorn. There will be pumpkin painting and a viewing of It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown (7pm).

**Jay Howroyd Fitness Trail Dedication & 1-Mile Family Fun Costume Run:** Join us at the new Jay Howroyd Fitness Trail, 115 North School Street, on Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup>! No registration is required; those wearing a costume will receive a goodie bag upon completion. Dedication ceremony will begin at 9:00am, family warm up with DJ Dale will begin at 9:45am and the run itself will begin at 10:00am. Complimentary refreshments will be provided by Brown Sugar Catering.

**Basketball Hall of Fame Clinic and Lunch:** Youth ages 7 – 12 will learn the skills of dribbling, shooting, passing, defense and rebounding from experienced co-ed high school and college basketball players through a series of skill stations. Register now for this exciting clinic that will take place at the Mahoney Recreation Center on Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am – 2:00pm. Be sure not to wait to register as this clinic is already more than half full!