

SUFFIELD PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
August 30, 2023

The Suffield Parks & Recreation Commission held a special meeting on Wednesday, August 30, 2023 in the conference room, Town Hall, 83 Mountain Rd., Suffield, CT. Zoom was also available for those who wished not to attend in person.

ATTENDANCE:Brian Casinghino, Chairman
.....Bill Boucher, Vice Chairman
.....Stephen Marchillo
.....David Rusnock

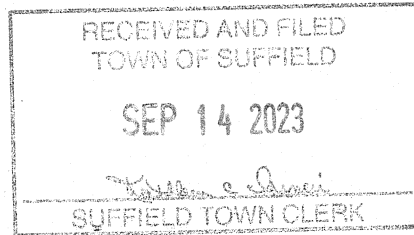
ABSENT:.....Andrew Joly
.....Sam Lombardo
.....Anthony Migliozi

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:.....Peter Leclerc, Director

Brian called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.

Brian asked Peter to read the agenda into the minutes:

- A. Call to Order
- B. Public Input
- C. Review of Minutes
- D. Correspondence
- E. Program Reports
- F. Old Business
 - a. Bridge Street Park
 - b. Summer Concert
 - c. Senior Center Flooring
 - d. Other
- G. New Business
 - a. New parking lot paving
 - b. Road Race
 - a. Pre-race volunteers
 - b. Day of volunteers
 - c. 5k Run to Remember
 - a. Partner
 - b. November 18th
 - d. Fall Sports
 - e. Proposed Lacrosse Rebound Wall at Sullivan Field
 - f. CRPA Conference
 - g. other
- H. Adjournment



PUBLIC INPUT: None.

MINUTES: Dave made a motion to accept the June 14, 2023 minutes. Bill seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to accept the minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PROGRAM REPORTS: Peter said it is hard to highlight specific programs since they are all good and the staff is amazing for the job they do.

Bill commented on Donna's running program, at Suffield Academy, that it consisted of various age groups and was well attended.

Peter said he wanted to acknowledge people who have helped with our camps.

Regarding the soccer camp; we decided, a few years ago to do this camp in-house and the high school coaches David Sullivan, Britany Whiteley and Eric Hamylak who has done the coordinating have done a great job. David Sullivan has helped with the coaching staff.

We had a quest speaker at the field hockey camp to enhance the program and she was very well received by the kids.

Bill has helped with the 5 5 5 race series that is a fundraiser for Suffield Community Aid. They raised almost \$400 this year.

Donna's road race group has a wide range of participants and it has been very successful and attended. There was a new arts program and the instructor has done a great job.

We had a major rain storm that flooded Spaulding school and the Kids' Korner staff helped to move the camp equipment to McAlister and called each parent to let them know that the camp would be at McAlister for a few days. The school was very accommodating and helpful. The commission discussed the staff and how well they do their job and that they have a good relationship with each other. Brian commended Peter on the various programs and camps he has added to the department.

The Yard Goats game was a great success. It is a hi-light event to be able to recognize people in the community who volunteer and give of their time.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bridge Street Park: There is nothing new right now. Brian said he feels it will not be worked on until after the election and most likely it will have to go to a town vote. Bill said we should hold off on fund raising until we see where this project is going.

Summer Concert: Tonight, is the last concert of the season and it is the last summer event. The concerts have been very successful. The big addition this year is the food trucks. This really got families out. Good bands, good turnouts. Stephen asked who organized the food trucks and Peter said Shannon. Stephen is thinking this might be a nice addition to the flag football games. Peter will put Stephen in touch with Shannon.

With all the rain we have had this year we did not have any rainouts. The concerts were every other week and luckily we missed the rain.

Senior Center Flooring: The kinder hoops is held in the area where the new floor is going and it will be safer and easier to play on. The bids will go out this week or next for the synthetic floor. Once the bids are back the

floor should be in shortly after that; in time for basketball to start. The indoor pickleball area will have heat treated lines instead of tape.

Other: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

New parking lot paving: Sullivan and Bruce Park have been paved. Sullivan really needed the new paving.

Road Race: The road race is coming up; September 9th and any pre-race help would be appreciated. There is a new sign-up area for volunteers on the town website. Peter said he gets emails with the volunteer's name and what they would like to volunteer for.

Pre-race volunteers: Peter reviewed what items the pre-race volunteers can help with. Some items can be taken home to do.

Day of volunteers: Peter asked the commission members to ask friends and family to volunteer. There is a free volunteer tee shirt for those that volunteer.

5K Run to Remember: Last year we helped Dave Cameron with his memorial race for a friend that had passed. We helped with signage, logistics, the archway, and a few other things. The race was done just for friends.

Partner: This year he is going to make it a run to remember (he lost another friend this year). We are going to help him as he helps us out with various events.

November 18: The date has been changed from Thanksgiving Day to the 18th as some people may not want to run or volunteer on Thanksgiving.

Brian asked where the course is. Bill brought up our 5K course and the possible course change for next year. There was also talk of changing the race date but Peter said he likes the date: it is a kickoff for Suffield on the Green. The commission discussed the various routes that could be used regarding their pros and cons. A new course would have to be measured and Peter said he is open to changing it.

Fall Sports: Dan is holding the soccer coaches meeting tonight, teams are done and rosters will go out tomorrow. Once the practices start, we will have a few more signups as those who have not signed up will see their friends practicing and want to join.

Proposed Lacrosse Rebound Wall at Sullivan Field: Peter said that some of the neighbors in the area where the rebound wall is proposed (Sullivan Field) have reached out to him with concerns about the repetitive noise. Its close to the middle school and we want kids to practice but its not a specific time, they can practice at anytime and the sound carries.

There is a lacrosse bounce back unit and if we can find one (and get a price) Peter said he will reach out to the lacrosse club about that instead of a rebound wall. The support is not there for the wall but if they want the bounce back units, we can help with this. Dave said he has heard that the bounce back units are better because you can practice more skills with it.

Peter said a shed was put on the field and there is concern about the condition of it. He looked at it and felt that it needs some cleanup but structurally seems sound. We will find out when they take it back with the forklift.

If we need to replace, we can go to A.C.C.E. and request funds. Stephen asked about a shed for Cervione fields and Peter said we do not program anything out there right now. There was discussion of the condition of the Cervione fields and Stephen commented on how nice they are.

CRPA Conference: The conference will be held the Monday and Tuesday before Thanksgiving. The office will be closed on Monday since Pam will be going down with us and attending classes. Peter has lobbied for more education sessions for office staff. Brian said the administrative staff is part of the team and it's great that these classes are available for her. Peter will lead a roundtable on youth sports on Tuesday.

Other: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Dave made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stephen seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Scheitlin, recording secretary for
Sam Lombardo, Clerk

These minutes are not official until accepted at subsequent meeting