



## **Town of Ridgefield Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at 6:30 pm**

**Meeting held via Zoom**

**UNAPPROVED**

**PRESENT:** P. Kearns, B. Dobbin, D. Shofi, K. Hulber, E. Bottali, P. Nichols, D. DiPinto, E. Cipolla, B. Schneider, K. Fassman, A. Platt

**GUEST:** Karen Sulzinsky

These minutes are a general summary of the meeting and are not intended to be a verbatim transcription. An audio recording of the meeting will be available online at <https://www.ridgefieldparksandrec.org/node/993/minutes> for 45 days.

**Meeting called to order by Chair at 6:34 pm.**

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Barbara Dobbin made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by David Shofi. Motion carried 4-0.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Barbara Dobbin to approve the June minutes. Seconded by David Shofi. Motion carried 4-0.

### **FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Eileen Cipolla provided the monthly financial report. Projected revenue and expenses are on-target.

### **BUSINESS UPDATES**

**Chairman's Report** – Phil Kearns

Updates will be covered under the subcommittee reports.

**Director's Report** – Dennis DiPinto

- Shared of copy of a letter from Janine Mac Donnell addressed to the Board of Selectmen requesting a shade structure at the Ballard Park playground. P&R is aware that some trees were removed from the CVS parking lot as part of their parking lot renovations which reduced the amount of shade.
- Reviewed a proposal for a sculpture in Ballard Park, but not recommending we move forward due to the the precedent it would set
- Met with Kerri Glass of The Goldstone Family Foundation to request funding for additional trees around the Rec Center walking trail, and happy to report that Friends of Ridgefield Parks and Recreation will be receiving a grant of \$2,500.
- Met with Rudy and Phil regarding attorney representation for the special permit application for



Martin Park.

- Attended a staff meeting with our waterfront lifeguards working at Martin Park this summer to address their concerns regarding hourly pay rate; Agreed to increase their hourly wage.
- Barlow Mountain Pool gutter replacement is underway and scheduled to be completed by mid-August.
- Attended monthly revenue meeting at Town Hall
- Attended pre-bid meeting for the Governor Park tennis/basketball court resurfacing project. Bids have gone out. Timing will be determined once a contractor is chosen.
- Department Head meeting took place earlier today to discuss some employee benefits the town is rolling out.

**Marketing & Programs – Kathy Fassman**

- Working on fall/winter programs
- Fall brochures will be mailed in mid-August
- Fall program registrations will be available August 1

**Asst. Director Parks – Bob Schneider**

- Generator issues inside the Recreation Center are being addressed
- Lighting upgrades continue in and around the Recreation Center
- Awaiting confirmation from Purchasing Dept. on completion of the handicapped spots and the additional parking area at the Recreation Center
- The Campbell family has donated a new bench and tree for the walking train in memory of Mr. David Campbell.
- Town fireworks took place on July 9<sup>th</sup>; Some minor burns were discovered on the turf field and a meeting is expected in the coming weeks to discuss possible relocation for next year.
- Outdoor crew is finishing some on-going work in the dog park

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Marketing, Promotions & Membership – Phil Kearns** reported for Evie Bottali  
Nothing new to report.

**Aquatics & Programs – Barbara Dobbin**  
Nothing new to report

**Budget & Policy – Phil Kearns**  
Nothing new to report

**Buildings & Grounds (B&G) – David Shofi**  
Moving forward with application for a special permit with P&Z and the subcommittee will be meeting with town counsel during an executive session in August.



**Special Services, Community Outreach and Customer Experience – Kim Hulber**

Nothing new to report.

**Strategic Planning & Annual Goals – Phil Kearns**

Nothing new to report

**No New Business**

With no further business, David Shofi moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:07pm. Barbara Dobbin seconded the motion and the motion carried 6-0.

**REMINDER: Commission will not meet in August. Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at 6:30 pm via Zoom.**