



Town of North Canaan  
Recreation Commission

March 19, 2024

Present: Chairwoman Lindsey Crane, Tonya Roussis, Laura Bosio, Shawn Finney, Marilisa Camardi, Justin Ellison, Tom Bunce

Chairwoman Crane called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

**Ms. Camardi moved to accept the agenda as presented. Ms. Roussis seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**Ms. Camardi moved to accept the amended minutes with the spelling mistake of pond. Ms. Bosio seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Public Comment: Selectman Ohler is requesting that the current playground equipment behind the pavilion be moved to the Steve Blass field near the swings to create a better playground space there, then turning the existing pavilion area into a dog park. Mr. Finney questioned about moving it near the volley ball court so that it is not in the wet area and to avoid some of the mosquitos. There was a discussion of parking. **Mr. Bunce moved to approve the process of moving the playground equipment and to create the dog park space. Ms. Roussis seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Director Adam Bunce report:

- Ski club: season ended 2 trips short due to the weather, but the ones that occurred went well. Everyone will get reimbursed for those 2 trips. Marilisa has the bill to pay Mohawk and to cut the refund checks. Mr. Finney suggested getting the bus driver a gift. **Ms. Camardi made a motion to approve the purchase of a Dunkin \$50.00 gift certificate for the driver. Ms. Bosio seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
- Basketball: looking to do a summer camp. There has not been much going on with Spring stuff.
- Basketball: Going well. There are evaluations next week for the majors and the AAA groups. 128 kids have registered. There will be 2 majors teams and 1 AAA team. Other towns in league are combining double A and single A because of their numbers so we are doing it as well in order for everyone to be able to play. League rules are being worked on. This is all Little League. Once the upper teams are set

we will look at the younger kid programs. Upper groups coaching is good, still need to look at the younger groups. Umpires are still needed for senior groups.

- Softball: 28 girls signed up. There will be a senior team and a junior team with 14 each on a team. Registration went out to the middle school girls so they knew they could do both and there are a few that will play. We are good with softball coaches
- Lifeguards: Currently 7 will be coming back, still waiting to hear from 1 more. Lost 1 to a full time job. Swim team is still in the works. That will go out the end of April or beginning of May. Lessons will go the same way as last year as it worked out well. There was a discussion of possibly selling snacks and water at the pool. Selectman Ohler will check with Torrington Area Health, but as long as they are prepackaged snacks and not being prepared it should be fine. The new fridge is in the pool house and just needs to be cleaned. A link for the new vacuum was sent to members to review but there was no response. The vacuum at the pool no longer works so there needs to be a new one purchased. Justin explained what needs to be done to get a new one functional. Money for purchase would come from the special account. **Mr. Finney made a motion to approve the purchase of a new vacuum for the pool. Ms. Camardi seconded the motion. Motion carried.** Director Bunce will work on this tomorrow.
- Softball uniforms and equipment are good, but have to get some visors, socks and balls. Greenacres landscaping was asked to get the Sam Eddy field and the Segalla field prepped as usual. They said they can do it this year, but the commission needs to have a different plan for next year.
- There will be a region 1 tennis again as well as a regional ultimate frisbee. Tennis is middle school age. Lisa will likely do some of the summer stuff in town. Camps will be coming around again.

Marilisa Camardi Treasurer report: The Canaan Foundation gave commission \$500 for the tarp/sandbags for the pavilion for the skating rink. A thank you will be sent and then a form needs to be completed and sent back to them with photos of what was purchased. A \$1000 donation from JJ Pools was received to go towards the basketball hoops. This purchase needs to be researched and done before the end of the year. Special account balance is currently \$12708.49 will be less after paying Mohawk and refunds. There is still enough for the vacuum and at least one of the hoops. Pickle tape was given to Director Bunce. Both tennis courts will be lined and there is a set of equipment at the pool house for people that do not their own. Director Bunce requested that the town look into cleaning the courts as they are dirty and possibly have mildew on them. Selectman Ohler stated there is still some AARPA money that needs to be spent. Suggested that the fence be fixed. There was a discussion of what fence company to use. Director Bunce will get a quote for

the tennis court fencing and will also let them know the possibility of fencing for Lawrence field. The tennis court surface looks sturdy and just dirty. The Egg hunt was a huge success with 117 participants. Total expenses to date for this is \$378.97 but Ms. Camardi will buy non-perishable items for next year after Easter this year. Possibly more bags for next year.

Old business:

Signs: The tennis court sign is being worked on and they will get back to Director Bunce with information.

Art Show updates: Director Bunce is working with them to clarify some things that they did not understand. There will be a porta potty there. They are advertising for food trucks. This is May 18-19. McDonalds has been forewarned that this will be happening. There was a discussion regarding porta pottys and pricing. Director Bunce will reach out to them to follow up about everything.

Group Family Event: At the last meeting we discussed doing a survey on whether people would want to do a bus or simply drive themselves. There are 2 different ticket options. General admission at \$17 per ticket (for a group of at least 25) or Sky Deck tickets \$50 per person which includes food, beverage, etc. But need to pay for a certain amount of people. The suggestion was to this time do a general admission group ticket with no bus and after the event send a survey following up on what they might be interested in. Tickets are selling out so a date needs to be picked and a flyer done. Ms. Bosio will reach out to see what is available.

Fundraiser at brewery will be April 21. Selectman Ohler stated that we are allowed to do a raffle and/or a 50/50 for a specific thing. It should be advertised everywhere by this group. Have to be there at 5:30 trivia starts at 6:00. It will be sports themed but there will be a few other items thrown in. It was decided not to do a raffle, just a 50/50. Selectman Ohler will create the flyer.

Family Fun Night will be a sports theme obstacle course July 11. Discussion of what obstacles to use. Director Bunce will work on getting this together. Event starts at 6:00pm. Discussion of having a pool party during that week. It was decided a pool party would be done on July 10.

Eversource: Ms. Camardi is working with the town to get the locations we are paying for electricity on so that it can be reviewed and adjusted as needed.

New business:

Pota Pottys: There will be 3 locations with delivery April 1. Decision was made to stay with current company unless there is a significant increase in charge.

Spring field work Director Bunce will be in touch with Greenacres landscaping. Nothing should be put on the clay areas at Lawrence Field.

Anything Else to come before commission:

Ms. Camardi saw on Facebook a cute idea for a rock snake. There was a discussion on where to do this. Chairwoman Crane will contact Dr. Roy about having a name voting contest with the school kids. Ayrlea Odell will paint the sign and the snake head when she receives the materials.

Greenacres is participating in the adopt a garden and is taking on the pool house.

**Ms. Roussis moved to adjourn. Mr. Finney seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrlea A Odell

Recording Secretary