

Parks and Recreation Committee

May 25, 2016

The Parks & Recreation Committee held a regular meeting on Wednesday, May 25, 2016 in Room 213 of Stratford Town Hall as duly posted.

Members Present: Chairman Kadeem, Mr. Jaekle, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Rich, Mr. Marcone, Ms. Antezzo, Mr. Stelmack, Mr. Hoydick, Mr. Salerno

Alternates Present: None

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Recreation Superintendent, Pat Patusky

Call to Order: Chairman Kadeem called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Approval of Minutes – Mr. O'Brien made a motion to approve the minutes of April 27, 2016. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jaekle. The motion carried unanimously.

Projects and Reports

- a. **5-Year Plan** – Ms. Patusky has put together a draft for members to peruse and get feedback.

Continuing items

- a. **Frank DeLuca Field** – Mr. Rich noted Brakettes season opener is in two (2) weeks.

- b. **Short Beach Commission** – Mr. Jaekle reported he met with Little League who is requesting a port-a-potty due to the fact that the mens' league seems to be using the Little League dugout to relieve themselves. Ms. Patusky noted that bathrooms are to remain open and has addressed this concern. Chairman Kadeem informed the Committee members if a problem arises they should call Ms. Patusky or Mr. Esposito instead of waiting until the next meeting of the Parks & Recreation Committee.

Restaurant is complete and contracts have been signed – opening in August.

Mr. Jaekle reported the first movie night will be this Friday, May 27th – Saturday, May 28th will be the first Teen Night from 5-9 p.m.

- c. **Boothe Park** – Opening day was held on May 15th – successful.

- d. **Maximize Use of School Facilities** – Mr. Stelmack thanked the Committee for opening the Nichols School basketball courts.

e. Tennis Courts, Platform Tennis and Pickle Ball – Cost to fix Short Beach courts is astronomical – Mr. Esposito is looking into resurfacing.

f. Athletic Fields – Mr. O'Brien noted that a section of Wooster field is in need of work – also Lacrosse field at Short Beach.

g. Longbrook Park – Splash park opening this weekend.

h. Roosevelt Forest – No Report

Old Business - None

New Business

- a. South End Splash Park** – Chairman Kadeem has spoken with the Mayor and would like to get something going this summer. Committee members discussed funding.
- b. Memorial for Larry Miller** – Possibility of a plaque being installed at Town Hall.
- c. Longbrook Park Skating Rink** – Discussed having members of the Wilcoxsin Fathers Club attend a meeting.
- d. Memorial for Bud Underwood** – Ms. Antezzo is working on this project
- e. Dog Park** – Mr. Rich distributed another possible location for the dog park (Short Beach mini golf area). He noted that the area near the dog park does not have the support of STARS and the dog pound. He distributed and discussed polling of Stratford residents as to where they would like to see park and discussed changing Ordinance for placement of the park at Short Beach. He noted signage could be installed stating “No dogs at the beach”, discussed design of park and noted that only Stratford residents would be able to utilize park because of need for a beach sticker. Chairman Kadeem feels having the dog park at Short Beach would be a safety issue. Ms. Patusky would like to leave this area open for future development. Mr. Hoydick has no issue with placing the park on the Greenway.

A representative from STARS voiced concerns as to why the dog park should not be located at the Greenway. It was noted that in other areas dog parks are side by side with animal control facilities.

Committee discussed placing the dog park in the area of the old caretakers' house at Roosevelt Forest.

Mr. Hoydick made a motion to send to the Roosevelt Forest Commission with a favorable recommendation that the dog park be installed in the area

of the old caretakers' house at Roosevelt Forest. The motion was seconded by Mr. Salerno. The motion carried unanimously.

- f. **Greenway** – Ms. Patusky reported that a group from Complete Streets will hold workshops next week at the Baldwin Center to give feedback on designs for the extension of the greenway.

Members Comments/Concerns - Exchange Park – Ms. Antezzo read a letter received from constituents in regards to drugs, motorcycles driving on grass and people hanging around the park. Chairman Kadeem will deliver this letter to the Police Department so that patrols can be sent to this area.

Seeing no other business to discuss, Ms. Antezzo made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rich. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Gail De Cilio

Recording Secretary