

# Parks and Recreation Committee

**June 22, 2016**

The Parks & Recreation Committee held a regular meeting on Wednesday, June 22, 2016 in Room 213 of Stratford Town Hall as duly posted.

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

**Alternates Present:** Ms. Calzone, Mr. Bauer

**Members Absent:** Mr. Marcone

**Others Present:** Recreation Superintendent, Pat Patusky, C. Esposito, Parks Superintendent

**Call to Order:** Chairman Kadeem called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes** – Mr. Salerno made a motion to approve the minutes of May 25, 2016. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hoydick. The motion carried unanimously.

## Projects and Reports

- a. **5-Year Plan** – Ms. Patusky reported this is not complete

**Mr. Rich made a motion to waive the rules to take dog park out of order. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hoydick. The motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Rich would like to make a motion to move to the Town Council three (3) locations for the dog park – 1) Birdseye Dock 2) Longbrook Park and 3) Near the animal control facility. He distributed and reviewed potential sites and referred to emails from Halifax Humane Society and Dog Parks USA. Discussion ensued on the parking situation at Birdseye Dock. Members of the public speaking in favor of the dog park and potential locations were:

- J. Mis, 293 Allyndale Street, feels Longbrook Park would be an ideal location
- Ms. Cody, 111 Colony Street feels dog park is needed in town
- S. Halbert, 17 Matthew Drive, is in favor of the dog park in vicinity of animal control facility
- R. David, Chairman Roosevelt Forest Commission, favors dog park at animal control facility
- K. Daden, 202 Curtis Avenue, favors dog park at animal control facility
- Chairman Kadeem, favors dog park at animal control facility
- Resident, 478 Prospect Drive, favors dog park at animal control facility
- P. Lockshier, noted there will never be a location everyone will agree on – likes Roosevelt Forest or Longbrook Park but will not support dog park near animal control facility

- Resident, 307 Curtis Avenue, favors Birdseye Dock area
- Councilwoman Manus, noted there usually are not a large number of dogs in dog park at the same time

Speaking in opposition of the dog park in certain locations:

- J. Nemergut, 50 Birdseye Street, opposes Birdseye location
- Resident, 163 Breakers Lane, opposes Birdseye location
- J. Gallanty, 50 Birdseye Street, opposes Birdseye location
- J. Keenan, Tide Harbor, opposes Birdseye location
- S. Philips, Zoning Commission, opposes Birdseye location

**Mr. Hoydick made a motion to send to the Town Council with a favorable recommendation the dog park to be located adjacent to the animal control facility. The motion was seconded by Mr. Salerno. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Mr. Rich made a motion to send to the Town Council with a favorable recommendation \$15K be set aside from the 2017 CIP for the dog park. Chairman Kadeem amended the motion to read \$25K or whatever funds necessary be committed from CIP for dog park. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jaekle. The motion carried 8-2.** Mr. Bauer objects to monies being committed to the dog park when the lacrosse field needs repair. Mr. Esposito discussed the lacrosse field repairs.

Dog park will be added to continuing items.

## **Continuing items**

- a. Frank DeLuca Field** – Mr. Esposito noted some work has been completed. Mr. Rich suggested request for backstop in the next CIP budget.
- b. Short Beach Commission** – Mr. Jaekle questioned Little League leases vs. Clover Field leases. Mr. Esposito discussed maintenance of the field.
- c. Boothe Park** – Pumpkin Festival will be held October 15<sup>th</sup> from 1-5 p.m. Civil War Re-enactment will take place on September 17<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Noted buildings are open Tuesday and Saturday mornings because of security and volunteer issues.
- d. Maximize Use of School Facilities** – No Report
- e. Tennis Courts, Platform Tennis and Pickle Ball** – Ms. Antezzo noted there are two (2) lights out at the platform tennis court. Mr. Esposito reported lights are on a timer – clay courts have been groomed. He also noted that the SWC is contemplating pulling out of Stratford High School due to the condition of the Short Beach courts. Mr. Hoydick suggested getting an estimate for redoing six (6) of the courts.
- f. Athletic Fields** – Mr. O'Brien reported the new port-o-potty company is excellent and there are a few areas of Wooster field that is bare. Ms. Patusky reported State

tournament games do not get charged for field usage. Chairman Kadeem noted cars park in the area of the Wooster basketball courts and wondered if there could be a remedy. Reported Woodend court is not level – Mr. Esposito will check.

**g. Longbrook Park** – Mr. Esposito has been approached by residents of the area complaining that kids playing in the field have been a nuisance. He noted backstop has had to be replaced and suggested locking field and making usage by permit only. Ms. Patuskay informed the Committee that Penders Field had been locked prior to turfing. Mr. O'Brien suggested security cameras.

**Mr. Salerno made a motion to lock Penders' Field and make usage by permit only and installing "No Trespassing" and "Permit Only" signage and send to the Town Council with a favorable recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stelmack. The motion carried 9-1 with Mr. Jaekle in opposition.**

**h. Roosevelt Forest** – No Report

**Old Business** – Mr. O'Brien noted he has also heard from a neighbor in reference to kids hanging out at Exchange Park. Chairman Kadeem has brought letter submitted by Ms. Antezzo at last meeting to the attention of the Police Department.

### **New Business**

- a. **South End Splash Park** – Chairman Kadeem reported some money is available and hopes to start ground work shortly.
- b. **Memorial for Larry Miller** – No Report
- c. **Longbrook Park Skating Rink** – Mr. Kayne Boswell was informed he should come before the Parks & Recreation Committee in July. Ms. Antezzo will contact him.
- d. **Memorial for Bud Underwood** – No Report
- e. **Dog Park** – See Above – will be moved to Old Business
- f. **Greenway** – Waiting on traffic study by the Police Department

### **Members Comments/Concerns** - None

Seeing no other business to discuss, Mr. Hoydick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jaekle. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Gail De Cilio

Recording Secretary

