

HARTFORD PARKS & RECREATION MINUTES

Commission Members In Attendance

Allison Childs, David M. Crocco Jr., Tom McCleary, Joeseeph Denny, Brett Mayfield
November 14, 2024, 5:07 pm

Commission Members Absent

Nikki Boyle

Others in Attendance

Scott Hausler, Director

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Brett Mayfield_____ Seconded by: Joe Denny_____

In Favor _____ all _____ Opposed _____

The motion was Approved or Disapproved? _____ Approved _____

Citizen Comments

None

Commission Member Comments

None

Directors Report

See Directors Report - Scott spoke of the recent acquisition of a Ventrac machine for use by Parks and Recreation employees to do groundwork at town parks.

Tatum Barnes recently became a National Certified Recreation Professional.

Scott and staff have started the accreditation process to renew the Town of Hartford, Parks and Recreation department's accreditation. There are 150 standards that have to be met for accreditation. The deadline for accreditation is January 15, 2025.

Archery equipment, worth \$1,400, that was stored in the storage trailer at Clifford Park, was stolen.

The Halloween Trunk or Treat event was a success. It was estimated that there were around 1,000 participants in the event.

Valley Artesian, a water specialist company, has been consulted about the poor water quality at the West Hartford library. The water from the library's well is not potable. Water from the well stains the porcelain

sinks and toilets. This building is the responsibility of the Parks and Recreation department and Scott has been working to find a solution to the problem. Scott will be sending the water sample results of the water from the library's well to Brett Mayfield who has experience dealing with well water in the West Hartford area. Scott will be seeking out other water specialty companies to look at the problem. Also, Appalachian Trail hikers have stopped at the library to re-fill drinking water containers, which of course, will need to be discontinued until this problem is resolved. A drinking water dispenser has been set up at the library to provide drinking water for staff and patrons.

The WABA facility is open and in full operation for the season.

Family Bingo night a success.

Storm water check dams at the Maxfield complex were completed. All pathways throughout Maxfield will be resurfaced. Two inches of surface will be removed and replaced with gravel. Scott mentioned that it was in the original design to have pathways paved but was removed to save money.

Scott handed out a sheet seeking volunteers for this year's (2024) Polar Express.

Old Business

There was nothing to report on for the Community Center Survey. There was some discussion about a cover letter to attach to the survey and a QR code.

Brett Mayfield reported that two needle drop boxes have been approved by the Town Manager. The drop boxes will be installed at Kilowatt field and behind the band stand at Lyman Point.

Joe Denny made a motion to approve the Master Plan for the Town of Hartford, Parks and Recreation department. Motion was seconded by Allison Childs, all approved.

New Business

A tour of the town's parks was discussed. It was decided that the next meeting of the commission will take place at WABA (12/12/24).

Scott mentioned that he will be doing a presentation of Parks and Recreation's 2025 budget proposal to the select board on 11/26 and all commission members were encouraged to attend.

Items in the budget proposal that Scott will be highlighting in his presentation to the select board are: funds for the demolition of the deteriorating building on town property at the Maxfield sports complex. Funds to replace a Parks and Recreation truck; cost around \$60,000. Funding to hire a consultant to help implement the Parks and Recreation department's Master Plan goals, strategies and actions. And a need for a care coordinator for summer recreation programs. Funding for the coordinator would come from camper fees.

Scott briefly discussed Parks and Recreation's percentage of the total of the Town of Hartford's budget, approximately **1.44 million of 21 million, 6.9%**.

Scott mentioned that LED lights have been installed in the band stand at Lyman Point Park in order to discourage loitering in the band stand. Lights are set to a timer. Better fencing between the park and railroad is needed. Design work is underway for The Lyman Point park project by Park Architecture.

Next Meeting

At WABA, 5 pm 12/12/24

Adjourn

5:53 pm meeting adjourned

All in Favor

Respectfully submitted by: Thomas McCleary

Date: 11/15/24

Hartford Parks & Recreation Commission Members

Chair: David M. Crocco Jr. (7/25/2024)

Vice Chair: Allison Childs (04/04/2025)

Clerk: Tom McCleary (03/08/2024)

Member: Brett Mayfield (05/16/2025)

Member: Nikki Boyle (04/04/2025)

Member: Joeseeph Denny