

Monday, February 26, 2024

Town Hall

6:30 pm

Recreation Commission

Notes

1. Open Meeting, establish a quorum
 - Call to order 6:30 pm
 - Quorum established
 - In attendance: Jacques, Goodno, Flowers, Kelleher, Zaba, Wilcox, Delmonte
2. Approve Minutes from 11/13/23
 - Motion to approve by Flowers
 - Approved: Delmonte
 - Second: Wilcox
3. Project Updates
 - Senior Center – The siding and roof are done.
 - Pickleball – We did not get approved for the bond. We are awaiting the STEAP grant to open but we have the estimates we need.
 - Basketball Courts – Lines will be down before we reopen for the spring season
 - Ramps to the playground will be constructed by public works. We hope to add a milling path to the pavilion as well.
4. DEEP Trails Grant Request for Support
 - LaPorte gave background on the Greenway trail for the committee. It is supposed to run from Derby to Torrington. Many sections are already under construction or planned.
 - The largest unplanned section is in Harwinton.
 - Discussion ensued and the following questions were raised:
 - What does the route look like?
 - How does the town come up with 20% of the grant?
 - How will the town cover the rest of the construction?
 - Who would maintain the greenway once complete?

- Why would we apply for this section when it doesn't connect to anything else?
 - The Commission opposes the letter of support because we do not think the project will ultimately be approved or used, especially since there are no other connecting trails. They would be more likely to write a letter of support if the trail would be connecting to another part of the trail and if we could prove it would be utilized.
 - The cost of maintenance would also need to be considered on top of how the town would fund future projects because they would be expensive.
 - This could be another committee separate from the Recreation Commission dedicated to the Greenway projects.
5. Ajax Premiere Field Request
- Ajax is requesting field time for camps in the summer and practices in the fall
 - They were looking for a seasonal rate as opposed to the \$100 per hour they would normally fall under for our field use policies. They currently
 - Confirm with Burlington for the week and if they're doing camps. \$250 per week
 - Seasonal rate \$250 per week in the fall along with clinics.
6. New Business
- Flowers would like to step down as chairman after 25 years of serving on the board. He would like to remain on the commission.
 - Commission approves Wayne to take over as chairman.
 - The Commission suggests asking the First Selectman about changing the term to 2-3 years instead of 5 years.
7. Adjourned at 7:35pm
- Flowers to adjourn
- Delmonte second.

