



ORANGE TOWN
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Orange Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Town Hall Meeting Room– 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday November 15, 2023

(Unapproved)

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners Present: Chairman James O'Connor, Deborah Davis, Dan Zapatka, William Nicoletti, and Stephen Bospuda

Commissioners Absent: James Ronai, Chuck Stackpole, and Jack Pritchard

1. CALL TO ORDER

- Chairman O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m. and asked the members to introduce themselves. He welcomed everyone during the holiday season.

2. PUBLIC DIALOGUE

- There was no public dialogue at this time.

3. MINUTES – October 25, 2023

Mr. Bospuda made a motion to approve the October 25, 2023 Parks and Recreation minutes, seconded by Ms. Davis. All were in favor and the motion PASSED.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- Mr. Lynch advised that any old business would be discussed under the Director's Report.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Orange Little League Update – Eric Jadach and Adman Dinihanian, OLL President

- Mr. Jadach, former OLL President, introduced the new OLL president, Mr. Dinihanian, to the Commission members. While Mr. Jadach has stepped down in this capacity, he noted that he would remain on the Board and continue to be involved.

- Mr. Jadach reported a great overall season, despite some delays due to the smoke from wildfires. He presented the data - 496 total players, 165 in softball and 331 in baseball, along with the accolades. He added that there were 177 volunteers involved this season.
- Mr. Jadach discussed in-kind services which included changing the Roche batting cages to doubles, adding cameras to Goldberg Field to stream games, buying a new net on the T-ball field at DeGennaro Field, installing new drainage at Goldberg Field, and buying a new scoreboard at Roche, thanks to a \$3k donation from a parent. Future planned improvements include adding drainage at Roche Field, replacing the stairs to the scoreboard at Roche, rebuild the landing on the second level at Plakowitz Field, and buying a new scoreboard at Stankye Field. OLL plans on doing a fundraiser for this new scoreboard.
- Chairman O'Connor inquired about the clay at the fields and Mr. Jadach gave an update.

B. Ground and Facilities – Mr. Bspuda

- Mr. Lynch advised that the seasonal crew would continue to work until around December 8th, depending on the weather.

C. Budget

- There were no questions on the budget at this time.

D. Director's Report

- The 2024 Parks and Recreation meeting dates have been approved and filed with the Town Clerk.
- Mr. Lynch reported that the current leaf machine is 20 years old and broke. It had to be replaced with a new machine from Knights.
- Mr. Lynch reported that the Co-Ed Volleyball League has been cancelled due to lack of interest. All other programs will continue, and Mr. Lynch reviewed the upcoming sports programs. Ski Bums has filled up very quickly, and there is a new added option to add an additional two weeks to this program.
- The 11th Annual Rotary Club of Orange is hosting the Orange 5k Turkey Trot at 8:00 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day at High Plains Community Center.
- It was agreed that this year they will install the ice rink under the front pavilion as there will be both covering and lights. It will be ordered tomorrow. Exiting rules for the ice rink will be posted. No hockey is allowed on the rink.
- Lastly, First Selectman Zeoli appointed Mr. Matt Shaw to replace Mr. Corris as a Parks and Recreation Commissioner. He most likely will begin in January.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- Chairman O'Connor advised that the Fred Wolfe Park Access Parking and Safety Study has been completed and the next step is to hold a Public Meeting to receive input from the neighbors and the community at large. This upcoming meeting will be advertised both on the website and in the paper. Mr. O'Connor suggested having their January monthly meeting coordinate with this Public Hearing to give/receive input. In addition, the Fred Wolfe Park Committee will look at the Master Plan of this property, which may be revised for future development.

6. ADJOURNMENT

*Mr. Zapatka made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m., seconded by Ms. Davis. All were in favor and the motion **PASSED.***

Respectfully Submitted,
Deborah Satonick
Recording Secretary