



TOWN OF ESSEX  
**Park and Recreation Commission**

29 West Avenue • Essex, Connecticut 06426  
Telephone (860) 767-4340 x110 • FAX (860) 767-8509

**Regular Members**

*Robert Russo, Chairman*  
*Anthony Mosa*  
*Douglas Senn*  
*Virginia Willetts*  
*John Bean*

**Alternates**

*Daniel Needleman*  
*Brette Fitton*

**Unapproved**

**MINUTES - Tuesday, June 12, 2018 - Special Meeting**

**1. Call to Order and Attendance**

A Special meeting of the Essex Park & Recreation Commission was conducted on Tuesday, June 12, 2018 in the Auditorium of the Essex Town Hall.

**Attending Members:**

Robert Russo  
Doug Senn  
Daniel Needleman, seated for Anthony Mosa

**Absent Members:**

Virginia Willetts  
Anthony Mosa  
John Bean  
Brette Fitton

**Staff:**

Mary Ellen Barnes, Park & Recreation Director

R Russo called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

**2. Public Comment**

There were no members of the public present.

**3. Approval of March 6, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION** made by D Senn to approve the March 6, 2018 meeting Minutes as presented;

**SECONDED;** D Needleman; **Voting In Favor:** R Russo, D Senn, D Needleman; **Opposed:** None;

**Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 3/0/0.

**4. Financial Reports**

**General Fund and Program Revenue Fund** – M. Barnes provided an overview of General Fund and



discussed the encumbrance for tree work to be completed at Main Street Park and Viney Hill Brook Park, along with field remediation at Comstock.

**Program Revenue Fund** - M Barnes highlighted the Program Revenue Fund which will end this fiscal year with a positive revenue balance. M Barnes informed the Commission that the Essex Garden Club has once again sponsored scholarship for this year's summer camp.

**MOTION** made by D Senning to approve the Financial Report as presented; **SECONDED**; D Needleman; **Voting In Favor**: R Russo, D Senn, D Needleman; **Opposed**: None; **Abstaining**: None; **Approved**: 3/0/0.

#### **5. Director's Report / Parks & Program**

M Barnes reported on the following activity:

##### **Park Events**

- **June 18-22 – Holiday Movie to be Filmed in Essex Village**
- **News Release** - Essex, CT - Main Street, Essex Village will play the backdrop of a Holiday film from Synthetic Cinema International directed by Wesleyan Alumni and CT native Colin Theys over the course of June 19-22. Essex was selected due to its New England charm and storybook-like quality which makes it a great backdrop for a holiday movie.

"It's great to have a movie being filmed here in Essex," said Park and Recreation Director Mary Ellen Barnes "We know our historic downtown is a treasure, and it is nice to have a major TV movie validate that. We invite people to come downtown after the filming this summer and see for themselves all that Essex has to offer."

Filming will take place throughout Main Street Essex Village, on public and private property, from June 19th to the 22nd. Due to the range of filming dates, there will be intermittent traffic delays, sidewalk closures and limited on-street parking.

- **June 16 – Concert in the Park – Essex Land Trust – Main Street Park**
- **Starting June 16- Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> – Ivoryton Farmers Market**
- **June 23- Run for Chris – Grove Street Park**
- **July 4 – Ivoryton 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade – Ivoryton Park**
- **July 4 – Republican Town Committee – Ice Cream Social – Main Street Park**
- **July 5 - Yoga in the Park – Main Street Park**
- **July 28 – FCC - Concert in the Park – Main Street Park**
- **Aug. 4 – Lions Club – Lobster Bake – Main Street Park**
- **Aug. 18 - 1st Baptist – Craft Fair – Main Street Park**
- **Sept. 1 – Wedding – Main Street Park**



- **July & Aug. – P&R Concerts in the Park – See Flyer**

### **Spring/Summer 2018 Programming**

Registration for all spring and summer programming is currently being accepted to include the following programs: Running Rams, Tennis, Archery, Cooking and 7 weeks of Summer Camp with some new and exciting themes and field trips.

### **Parks Update**

- **Main Street Park**

Main Street Park is being enjoyed by all, with several events planned to be hosted there. As a result of thin grass, events scheduled during the month of September and October will be limited for re-seeding. M Barnes is working with the Augie Pampel, Tree Warden and Tuft Main Co. and plans to thin out the canopy so as to allow more light.

- **Dickinson Park**

No updates.

- **Sunset Pond**

DEEP permits have been obtained and M Barnes stated that she awaits Ct. Pond Service to schedule treatment.

- **Ivoryton Green**

Spring cleanup was recently completed along with mulch and minor plantings. The Ivoryton Gardeners also installed the potted plantings.

- **Comstock Park**

M Barnes reported that she is working with Professional Field Care to conduct maintenance to the Big Field at Hubbard. There is currently one team using that field. It was reported that the score board was not operational, however the batteries in the remote control were changed and the board is functional again.

- **Clark's Pond**

DEEP permits have been obtained and M Barnes stated that she awaits Ct. Pond Service to schedule treatment.

- **Viney Hill Brook Park**

Beaver Solutions inspected the culvert and reported that the beavers have chewed through the side the culvert to get inside, and had the culvert partially blocked. M Barnes reported that it was cleared and repaired so it should be in good shape until the fall maintenance is performed.



- **Hubbard Park**

The basketball court has undergone maintenance and repair of cracks and re-painting. M Barnes reported that there were reports of mud wasps within the field area and fence line and an exterminator was hired.

- **Grove**

P&R Commission Tour of the new paved walkway at the conclusion of the meeting.

- **Tennis Courts**

The courts have been washed and a coat of paint has been applied to the bubbling that occurred near the center light post – Hinding Tennis still needs to complete project with another coat of paint and crack repair.

**Walking Path Update** - The Commission toured the walking path and expressed their pleasure with the outcome of the finished project. M Barnes and D Needleman both heard from a couple who used the path for running who were very disappointed that it was paved, however most residents and park goers are very pleased with the new paved path. M Barnes reported that with the paving of the path it has transitioned into a stroller, bike and wheel-friendly environment and has allowed access for those with limited mobility.

While at Grove Street Park the Commission discussed the possibility of expanding the playground footprint as a capital project so as to offer more playground amenities. M Barnes will begin gathering information as to cost and feasibility.

**6. Adjournment**

**MOTION** made by D Senn to adjourn at 8:06pm to the next regularly scheduled meeting which will be conducted on Tuesday, September 11, 2018, Essex Town Hall, Conference Room B; **SECONDED:** D Needleman; **Voting In Favor:** R Russo, D Senn, D Needleman; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 3/0/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Stella C. Beaudoin  
Recording Secretary



