



TOWN OF ESSEX
Park and Recreation Commission

29 West Avenue • Essex, Connecticut 06426

Regular Members

Brette Fitton, Chairman

Anthony Mosa

John Bean

Daniel Needleman

Carolyn Field

Alternates

Vacancies

Unapproved

Special Meeting - MINUTES
Tuesday, April 13, 2022

1. Call to Order and Attendance

The Essex Park & Recreation Commission conducted a special meeting on Wednesday, April 13, 2022, 5:30 p.m. This meeting was made available to the public via Zoom. Park and Recreation Commission Chairman Brette Fitton welcomed everyone to the Park and Recreation Commission public access meeting. The Park and Recreation members announced themselves.

2. Attendance

Attending Members:

Brette Fitton

John Bean

Carolyn Field

Dan Needleman

Absent Members:

Anthony Mosa

Staff:

Mary Ellen Barnes, Director Park and Rec Department

Stella Caione, Recording Secretary

3. Review and Identify Capital Improvement Options and Ideas for Hubbard Park

M Barnes M. Barnes described a previous grant application from 2016, which included descriptions of several proposed improvements to Hubbard Park. As the grant was not received, the proposed improvements were not made. M Barnes noted that items which would bring improvements to the park, would include parking, landscaping, bathrooms, fencing, etc. The upkeep and maintenance of the fields were not addressed, however.

M Barnes noted that the goal would be to create connectivity between Hubbard park with the pocket park at corner of Grove and North Main Street, and the Essex library. M Barnes stated that summer-campers frequent Hubbard park, to the library, and she would like to have a walkable village, noting that Hubbard park is within the limits of that village. M Barnes noted that there are items that can be tackled with the capitol fund and the park maintenance fund.

M Barnes distributed a draft of the proposed improvements and referenced page 2, a proposed summary of items to be accomplished. M Barnes noted that some of the projects listed, have been accomplished. However, those items not yet completed are, signage, new fencing, snack shack, upgrade to facilities, small playground, volleyball court, and insofar as the landscaping, the plan is to install more evergreens in the back wall to finish off the basketball court. Fencing has been on the capitol improvement plan and there is a priority need to accomplish.

It was noted that there have been many requests to incorporate a pickle ball into the Town. M Barnes will send out an email-feeler to solicit the want/need for pickle ball.

It was noted that the priorities should be signage, parking, the outbuildings and the fence. Video surveillance should be updated.

M Barnes added the snack shack, the equipment shed, the video cameras, to the list of items that could be upgraded, along with the bull pens and the plates.

4. Public Comment

Drew Blicharz presented. Mr. Blicharz presentation was not audible.

MOTION made by J Bean to adjourn at 6:21 pm to the next regularly scheduled meeting which will be conducted on May 3, 2022 at 5:30 pm; **SECONDED**; C Field; **Voting In Favor**: B Fitton, C Field, J Bean, D Needleman; **Opposed**: None; **Abstaining**: None; **Approved**: 4/0/0. **No Discussion.**

Respectfully submitted,

Stella A Caione

Stella A Caione, Recording Clerk