



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK
Parks & Recreation Commission

*Susan Esty, Chairman
Kevin Lane, Vice Chair
Jim Henderson, Secretary*

www.oldsaybrookct.gov

*Star Rueckert
Bror Ashe
Nancy Gatta
Jane Wisialowski*

**OLD SAYBROOK PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Wednesday, November 8, 2023; 6:30 PM

This was a hybrid meeting

MINUTES

1. **Call Meeting to Order** – Chairwoman Susan Esty called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Present: Director Ray Allen; Chairwoman Susan Esty; Secretary Jim Henderson; Nancy Gatta; Jane Wisialowski; Bror Ashe (exited 7:07 p.m.); Asst. Director Jonathan Paradis; Gerri Lewis, Clerk

Absent: Vice-Chair Kevin Lane; Star Rueckert

2. **Approval of September Meeting Minutes**

A **Motion** to approve of the September 11th OSPR Meeting Minutes was made by Mr. Henderson and seconded by Ms. Gatta. Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Recognition of Guests** – None

4. **Correspondence** – It was noted that a donation of \$1,000 was made by Saybrook Point Inn to OSPR.

5. **Review of Bills** – The commission reviewed the OSPR Monthly bills for September as presented by Director Allen for \$87,968.32.

6. **Public Comment** None

7. **New Business**

A. Ferry Road Field Discussion

Director Allen reported that he and Ms. Esty attended ARPA and presented. He noted that Geoff Jacobson's cost estimate is \$319K with a contingency of 10%. He reported that Geoff Jacobson will write up the bid and it will go out at the end of the month. Work would probably start in April, 2024.

B. Main Street Connection Park Phase 2 Discussion

Project went out to bid; looking at \$598K; Selectman Fortuna is looking into obtaining more funding. Bond Commission approval was received. Work will start in the Spring.

C. Approval of Meeting Dates

A motion by Ms. Wisialowski, seconded by Mr. Henderson to approve the meeting dates was so VOTED unanimously. Ms. Lewis will post with the Town Clerk.

MINUTES

Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

D. Upcoming Election of Officers Discussion

Ms. Esty told the board to be thinking about the Election of Officers and if anyone had an interest to please let her know. At this time, Mr. Henderson noted that he would be willing to continue as Secretary.

E. Budget Fiscal Year 24-25 Discussion

Director Allen handed out and discussed all 4 FY24-25 Budgets.

F. Any other Business regarding Programs, Facilities or Personnel

Assistant Director Paradis noted the following:

- Cardio Sports
- Indoor Soccer; 17 teams;
- Basketball League; Sponsor Mike's Barber Shop;
- Teen Center running;
- Working on Winter Booklet;
- Adult Cake Decorating;
- December break camp 12/26 – 12/30;
- Pickle Ball coming inside;
- Starlight Festival 12/2; 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

8. Old Business

A. **All Parks Review** – Director Allen reported there was nothing new. He noted that water and electric is turned off.

B. Strategic Plan of Parks Discussion

Director Allen noted there was nothing to report.

C. The Preserve Update

Director Allen noted that next week, Thursday, the Preserve Ad Hoc Committee will meet with DEEP. Director Allen will send out an agenda. He noted the meeting discussions briefly:

- Hunting approval; how will it affect other animals; what type of hunting;
- State Regulations - DEEP

D. Any other Business regarding Programs, Facilities or Personnel-None

It was noted that there are restroom facilities at Town Beach and Harvey's Beach.

9. Reports

A. Chairman's Report

Ms. Esty noted that she would speak to Selectman Fortuna before the next ARPA Ad Hoc presentation.

MINUTES

Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

B. Director's Report

Director Allen reported on the interviews for the position at the Teen Center.

C. Liaison Reports

Ms. Gatta noted that the retaining wall for Monument Park was starting.

Director Allen reminded the board of the Christmas Party after the December meeting.

At this time, Ms. Esty thanked Kevin Lane and Bror Ashe for their service on the board and their strength that helped the board through the past few years. She also welcomed Rob Lemire and Beth Soden, new members. She also welcomed back Star Ruekert.

MOTION to adjourn at 7:42 p.m. made by Ms. Gatta, seconded by Mr. Henderson was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerri Lewis, Clerk
Parks and Recreation Commission

NEXT MEETING DECEMBER 13 , 2023