



KENT PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

P.O. Box 678

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REGULAR MEETING: Monday February 26, 2024 – 7:00 PM, Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

RECEIVED

By Darlene Brady at 11:21 am, Mar 18, 2024

Members Present: Rufus de Rham (Chairman), Lynn Worthington (Selectman, ex-officio), John Grant, Karen Iannucci, Miranda Lovato (Alternate)

Also Present: Matthew Busse (Park and Recreation Director, ex-officio), Lynn Harrington, Lynn Flynn, Carla Shere

Call to Order

de Rham calls the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

Elevation of Alternates if necessary (not conducted)

Approval of agenda

1. Busse made the recommendation to move the art group to after Public Comment.
2. Iannucci added Majong and Walking Group to the agenda
3. Worthington added reconstitution of bylaws subcommittee and update job descriptions under subcommittees
4. Worthington added discussion of pickleball, Matt Welcome event, and senior programming
5. **Motion to amend the agenda with the above listed items.**
 - a. Motion made by Worthington, Iannucci seconded the motion, motion carries unanimously.

Approval of previous meeting minutes

1. **Motion to approve the minutes of January 22, 2024.**
 - a. Motion made by Lynn Worthington, seconded by John Grant, motion carries unanimously.
2. **Motion to approve the minutes of February 21, 2024 special meeting.**
 - a. Add amendment of Rufus de Rham's last name spelling
 - b. Motion made by Worthington, seconded by Karen Iannucci, motion carries unanimously.

Correspondence

1. Rufus de Rham read Naomi's letter of resignation into the recording.
2. **Motion to accept with regret Naomi's letter of resignation.**
 - a. Motion made by de Rham, seconded by Lynn Worthington, motion carries unanimously.

Public Comment (None)

Programs and Events

1. Art Group
 - a. Shere gave an overview of the art group, with potential end date in May, and regrouping in the fall.
 - b. **Motion to authorize the Art Group to be in the Senior Center, either on Mondays from 11:30am to 1:30pm or Tuesdays from 10:00am to 12:00pm.**
 - i. Motion made by Worthington, seconded by Iannucci, motion carries unanimously.
 - c. Busse asks Shere to let him know the date and time the group chooses for the event.

Financial Report

1. Discussion of Capital Project Funds

- a. Current Capital Project Funds for Emery Park playground is not being utilized. No plan in place to use this funding for a playground.
- b. **Motion to ask the Board of Selectman and Board of Finance to reallocate the \$100,000 of Capital Project Funds for the Emery Park Playground to fund a Master Plan and address Drainage issues in Emery Park.**
 - i. Motion moved by Grant, seconded by Worthington, motion carries unanimously
2. Discussion of ARPA Funds for Splashpad: splashpad discussed at length with Busse investigating options.
3. Discussion of ARPA Funds for Drainage at Kent Commons Park: discussed at length about use of the ARPA fund.

Day-to-Day Park and Recreation Operations

1. Discussion on current department status by Busse at length.

Programs and Events

Current Programs:

1. Yoga with Dawn is going well. Dawn is looking to offer a spring session. Busse recommends for a motion of approval for a spring session for Dawn from March 7th to April 25th omitting March 14th and March 28th classes.
 - a. **Motion to approve a spring session for Dawn from March 7, 2024 to April 25, 2024, omitting March 14 and March 28 classes.**
 - i. Motion made by Worthington, seconded by de Rham, motion carries unanimously
2. Discussion of reassess the non-resident fee for programs. Current policy states a \$30 surcharge to non-residents, with last update as of 2009. This policy is currently not utilized for charging non-residents. Adding information to town-wide Park and Rec survey.

New Programs:

1. Emery Park Sunset Hike Program: Busse discussed program concept for a hike on the first night of Spring 2024
 - a. **Motion for a sunset hiking program on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, with a variable start and end time at Emery Park open to all members and non-members of the community at no cost.**
 - i. Motion moved by de Rham, seconded by Worthington, motion carries unanimously
2. Pickleball: Worthington attended Library's pickleball program at the Kent School. 37 attendees. Inquires if money in budget for equipment.
 - a. **Motion to spend up to \$600.00 on Pickleball equipment and supplies.**
 - i. Motion made by Worthington, seconded by de Rham, motion carries unanimously
3. EGGstravaganza Event: Busse sees interest in the event for 2024 and has begun connecting with past sponsors and volunteers. Busse recommends for a motion of approval for Eggstravaganza on Sunday, March 24, 2024 at 1pm with a rain date of Saturday, March 30, 2024 at 1pm at Kent Commons Park.
 - a. **Motion to approval for Eggstravaganza on Sunday, March 24, 2024 at 1:00pm with a rain date of Saturday, March 30, 2024 at 1pm at Kent Commons Park.**
 - i. Moved Grant, seconded by Iannucci, motion carries unanimously
4. Matt's Welcome Event: Discussion of event took place, establishing a date, time, and location, as well as confirming the \$200 limit for supplies.
 - a. **Motion to approve Matt's Welcome Event to be on Thursday March 14th from 5:30pm to 7:00pm at the Kent Center School Cafeteria and Gymnasium.**
 - i. Motion made by Worthington, seconded by Grant, motion carries unanimously
5. Majong and Walking Group: Discussion took place with decision to review Majong at the next meeting.
6. Concert Series: Busse to connect with Kent Land Trust on Concert Series.

7. Senior Lunches: Discussed a senior lunch at the Senior Center on Friday, March 22, 2024 at 12:00pm part of the ongoing senior lunch program.
 - a. **Motion for a maximum expense of \$250.00 for Serve Safe Manager Certification.**
 - i. Motion made by de Rham, seconded by Worthington, motion carries unanimously.

Park Facilities

1. Kent Center School Fields
 - a. Discussion of bid for lawn service. Busse lets commission know that an organic grub care must be applied to the Kent Center School Fields since chemical usage is not legal.
 - b. Busse to look into organic grub control.
2. Kent Commons Park
 - a. Park status discussed at length.
3. Emery Park
 - a. Park status discussed at length.

Subcommittee Reports


1. Discussion from commission on reconstituting the subcommittee with the following members:
2. **Motion to reconstitute the bylaws subcommittee and include the review of department job descriptions.**
 - a. Motion made by Worthington, seconded by Iannucci, motion carries unanimously.

Public Comment (None)

Adjourn

1. **Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:35pm.**
 - a. Motion made by de Rham, seconded by Iannucci, motion carries.

Minutes prepared by: Matthew Busse, Park and Recreation Director

Signature: 

Date: 03/18/2024

These are draft minutes and the Park and Recreation Commission at the subsequent regular meeting may make corrections. Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for possible corrections.