

Hartford Parks and Recreation Commission

Thursday May 12, 2022

5 pm

Hartford Town Hall

Meeting Minutes

Commission Members in Attendance: Brett Mayfield, Tom McCleary, Michael Vanasse, David Crocco

Commission Members Absent: Allison Childs, Nikki Boyle

Others in Attendance: Scott Hausler, Director

Meeting called to order: 5:04 pm by Brett Mayfield

The April minutes were approved.

Citizen Comments: none

Commission Member Comments: None

Meeting was held at the new pool. Scott gave a tour of the new pool facility. Plastering started on this day and contractor plans on finishing plastering tomorrow, Friday, May 13. Tour was a walk around of the entire pool area including the control room, family changing room and shower and pool filtration/mechanical space building. While in the Mechanical building, Scott gave a brief description of how the pool filtration system works.

Control Room window is the entry point to the pool. Patrons pay attendant at window for admission, have passes checked, etc. This same control room check point window will be used for all school sporting events charging admission. Two of the windows for the Control Room have not yet been installed; contractor awaits their delivery.

Scott's tour also included a discussion of pebbling of the zero-depth entry to the pool for greater traction, shower area of pool primarily for children and parents, deck areas for lounging and garden area for various plants and flowers.

Current plans are for limited drink sales, Gatorade only, no snacks, or other drinks. This could change over time. Drinking water provided.

Patrons will be asked to bring folding beach chairs or to use lounge chairs provided and not use towels on grass areas. Towels could harm the grass.

Grand Opening of pool, not until after the fourth of July. Plans are underway for pool opening celebrations.

There are plans to have a mural with a pool/aqua theme painted on Mechanical building wall facing the pool. A muralist painter recommended to Parks and Recreation Department by Youth Council will do the painting, pending approval by Parks and Recreation Department,

New Business – none

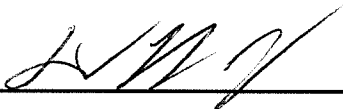
Agenda Items for Next Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting

Motion to adjourn and all accepted.

Meeting adjourned at 5:54 pm.

Next Meeting Thursday July 14, 2022, at 5:00 pm (no meeting in June)

Respectfully submitted: Tom McCleary, Commission Secretary

Signed By:  Dated: 7/14/22

Parks & Recreation Department
Significant Activity Report
June 11th, 2022
Respectfully Submitted By: Scott Hausler, Director

Program and Park Highlights

- The Department continues to struggle finding a full staff of lifeguards to man the new aquatic facility. 4 prospective lifeguards will be taking the lifeguard training course next week. Once they have completed and pass the course we should have a good idea of our ability to fully schedule the pool.
- Tuesday, June 7th we met with the Electrical Inspector and Bread Loaf. Only a few minor additions need to be addressed before occupancy of the space. South Shore Pool provided the operational training for the filtration system and we have taken over control of filtration operations for now. A few issues with the spray features were identified during our training and we hope to have those resolved before opening. Supply issues and delivery of product will cause some delay but shouldn't impact our opening. The west fence installation has a short delay for install, two windows were the wrong size. New windows were ordered but a delay in arrival.
- We have begun advertising for pool passes and opening the pool the weekend of June 17th.
- The Department would like to welcome aboard Tatum Barnes our new Recreation Specialist and Vincent Beckley our Certified Pool Operator. Both individuals started this week and gearing us up for a very busy summer.
- Spring Baseball/Softball and Lacrosse sports are winding down this week as we gear up for summer sport season.
- Summer staff training has started for the summer camp staff. The first week of Ventures Summer Camp starts June 13th.
- Staff have been busy with various projects at Maxfield. This includes a repair of split rail fencing, removal of several dead and declining trees, preparing for the Nighthawks baseball season. The declining and dead trees areas will be prepped for new trees. The crew will also be busy preparing facilities for various graduations parties.
- The Department received a Mean Green Mower as a demo to try out in the parks. The stand on machine was used all this past week throughout the parks. So far, the staff are happy with mowing results but cautious on the battery life for full day mowing. We hope to have a better assessment by the end of the week. This particular stand on mowing unit is almost 3 times the cost of a stand on mower.
- The Department assisted with the Covered Bridges Half Marathon by signing several roads and providing barricades for road closures. We also assist with traffic control, parking and overall cleanup after the event. This year was race was in person and well attended.

Parks & Recreation Department
Significant Activity Report
June 27th, 2022
Respectfully Submitted By: Scott Hausler, Director

Program and Park Highlights

- The pool facility has opened to the general public. We are planning a Grand Opening for July 7th with music, food, entertainment, and free swimming.
- The past week was busy with the Balloon Festival Parking for the Brian Hanson Scholarships. We raised close to \$10,000 for recreation program scholarships and memberships to the pool and arena for youth.
- Parks have been extremely busy with programs and special events such as the Cal Ripken State Tournament that will continue the weekend of June 25th at Maxfield.
- The Department was involved in the Hartford Community Coalition Block Party that was held on June 15th. The Department assists with the event as well as maintains an informational booth.
- Two concerts have concluded with good attendance. Jon Lackard played on June 15th and The Moonlighters played on June 22nd. Next up is Full House on June 28th.
- Summer Camp Ventures continues. We have completed 2 sessions of the program which is held at the Wendell A Barwood Arena and the Hartford Middle School.
- Department continues to work hard maintaining parks and sport facilities. The Upper Valley Nighthawks have started at Maxfield.
- Shout out to the Hartford Garden Friends for doing such an amazing job on all the gardens throughout the community.
- Held a Movie in the Park on Friday, June 24th with the showing of Ghostbusters Afterlife at Lyman Point Park.
- Programs that continue are Track and Field, Pickeball, Spring Youth Karate, and Home Decore.

Parks & Recreation Department
Significant Activity Report
July 11th, 2022
Respectfully Submitted By: Scott Hausler, Director

Program and Park Highlights

- Summer Ventures Camp is completing Week #4 and gearing up for Week #5. Camp has gone well. Tatum Barnes, Recreation Specialist for the Department continues to do a fantastic job with the program, staff and campers.
- The Summer Concert Series had performances from Full House, The Moonlighters and The Flames. We have had decent crowds for each concert performance.
- Teen Adventure Getaways continue to be successful. We have had two trips the past couple weeks. We took a vanload to the Lazer Tag Zone and Killington Resort.
- Staff worked very hard with the planning and implementation of this year's Independence Day Celebration on Monday, July 4th. A great crowd as usual with an estimated 2500 to 3000 on the grounds of Kilowatt Park. The Conniption Fits performed the musical entertainment along a performance from Pirate Man Dan. The weather was great for the fireworks display. During the musical entertainment performance we acknowledged through a public recognition the many service men and women who have served and are serving country in the military. Additionally, we provided a moment of silence in memory of those that have lost their lives serving.
- The office continues to be busy with upcoming registrations. All fall sport registration have started so patrons have been calling in and registering.
- We held a season opening celebration for the Sherman Manning Aquatic Facility on Thursday, July 7th. Musical entertainment was provided by the Hartford Community Coalition. The free swim along with free hot dog and snacks provided for a nice event and cutting of the ceremonial ribbon. Members of the Recreation Commission, Pool Committee and Selectboard were in attendance. We had 149 swimmers in attendance.
- Pool operations have been going well with great leadership from Abby and Vincent. The warm weather provided for solid attendance numbers.
- Parks continue to be busy with permits and active use. Over the past two weeks we have had 82 reservations through program and personal permits for a total of 487 hours of usage.