

Hartford Parks and Recreation Commission
Thursday, August 13, 2020
5:30 p.m.
Hartford Town Hall
Meeting Minutes

Commission Members in Attendance: Michael Vanasse, David Crocco, Jr., Allison Childs, Brett Mayfield, and Tom Abbatiello

Others in Attendance: Scott Hausler P&R Director; Joe Major, Select Board Liaison; Frederica Graham and Kye Cochran, Resilient Hartford; and Sharon Miller-Dubroski, and Shawn Wilder, Cornerstone Community Center

Meeting called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Michael Vanasse.

The July 2020 meeting minutes were moved and approved.

Citizen Comments: None

Commission Member Comments: David Crocco noted a special thanks to Scott and Hartford Parks & Rec staff for adding an additional three weeks to the program. It has been a life-line for his family as well as others.

Director's Reports (highlights)

- Extension of Ventures program for additional three weeks. Scott indicated it worked out well with staffing and participants
- Brief discussion of Lyman Point Bandstand and park with transients/homeless loitering and refuse around the park. Scott and staff are working on solutions to improve the situation
- Brief review of the activities that have gone on throughout the month and activities moving forward

Old Business:

- **Community Center – Meet with Cornerstone Community Center** (Presentation made before Director's Report.) Sharon Miller-Dubroski and Shawn Wilder provided brochures about the Center and gave an extensive presentation of the creation of the Center, the building's history, the activities that are in place now as well as those that are in the planning stages. The center is in the process of raising funds by applying for grant funds and donations. There was a comment made that the Center is being associated as a "secular" institution. The presenters noted that although the Center was founded by Praise Chapel and The Potter School in Hartford, that this is a separate entity from Praise Chapel. Shawn and Sharon offered a guided tour to the Committee if there is interest.
- **Hartford Community Center Discussion:** A small sub-committee made up of David Crocco, Allison Childs and Tom Abbatiello will meet to define what a community center would entail for the Town and to formulate ideas for funding. Other initiatives will be to invite input from others

in the community. A meeting would be arranged before the next Rec Meeting. Suggestion was made that it might be helpful to incorporate some questions about a community center in the up-coming survey that the Parks & Rec will send out in the early fall.

- **Pool Project Update:** Scott reported that there are three proposals by contractors for the construction of the pool. Based on the current design, there will be a negotiation of price and then the final proposal will go before the Selectboard to vote.
- **CAPRA Accreditation:** Scott noted that the CAPRA Accreditation will take place August 24th through the 28th, a five day process that is from 8:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. each day. The inspection will be a virtual inspection. Scott has provided documentation to the Accreditation Board already and will work with them throughout the week. He was unsure if the Board would need to speak with any Board Members but would let us know if we are needed.

Old Business:

- **Resilient Hartford Community Garden Survey for Use of Parks:** (due to timing for one of the presenters, this presentation was made before Citizens Comments.) Frederica Graham & Kye Cochran gave a presentation of the plans for community gardens focusing on the utilization of two of the Hartford Parks, Ratcliff and Clifford. Frederica and Kye reviewed the “Community Gardens and Shared Food Resource Revised Draft Survey” that was distributed for the committee’s review. A question was asked as to who would be maintaining the gardens and the response was that it is hopeful that the gardens would be planted and maintained by volunteers. David Crocco made a motion and Joe Major seconded to support the draft survey as presented. Motion was passed by the full commission.
- **VLCT ADA Safety Audit and Transition Plan:** The VLCT ADA Safety Audit and Transition Plan was reviewed and a motion was made, seconded and approved by the commission to accept the PACIF report as presented.
- **Plan 2020 Parks Tour:** Scott will setup a tour of the parks and will try to coordinate the tour for an evening or weekend time.

Agenda Items for Next Rec Commission Meeting:

- Community Center Update
- CAPRA Accreditation

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Allison Childs

Signed by: _____ Dated: _____