

# HARTFORD PARKS & RECREATION MINUTES

09/14/2023 | Meeting called to order by David M Crocco Jr.

## Commission Members In Attendance

Nikki Boyle, Allison Childs, Tom McCleary, Brett Mayfield, David M. Crocco Jr.

## Commission Members Absent

None

## Others in Attendance

Mary Erdei, Selectboard Liaison, Scott Hausler, Director

## Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Brett Mayfield. Seconded by: Allison Childs

In Favor all Opposed none

The motion was Approved or Disapproved? approved

## Citizen Comments

None

## Commission Member Comments

None

## Directors Report

See Directors Report – attached.

Fall sports are going well and the Recreation Department is very busy getting ready for winter time activities. Scott mentioned the split with the Hartford School District on the cost of running the Hartford Skating Rink; the Recreation Department allots \$35K and the school district appropriates \$40K. The money from the Recreation Department is held as a reserve fund for use in making immediate repairs to ice making equipment or other things requiring a quick fix in the arena.

Brett Mayfield spoke of the wish by the local Special Olympics team, the Hawks, (contact person, Mary Ellen Heath), to be provided with a suitable place to set up a bocce ball court within a Town of Hartford Park space. State of Vermont storm water regulations may need to be followed if setting up a bocce court in certain of the town's parks, thus limiting the number of prospective locations for a bocce ball court.

## Old Business

Brett Mayfield – needle boxes. The 3 parks where needles have been found are Watson, Ratcliff, and Kilowatt. In Kilowatt Park a 3-sided structure has recently been completed as an Eagle Scout project. This structure will be used to enclose a portable toilet. A needle box could be installed on one of the walls of this structure. Brett will provide Scott with pictures and prices of various types of commercially available needle boxes that could be purchased.

Motion: Nikki Boyle – to recommend that a needle drop box be installed at a location recommended by the Hartford Recreation and Parks Department in concert with the Town Health Officer, motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Allison Childs and approved by the commission with Brett Mayfield abstaining.

Scott said the Vermont State Building Communities Grant was not applied for – too many questions and uncertainties at this time. The Land Water Conservation Grant, Scott suggested, would be a more favorable Grant to apply for. Scott handed out a sheet, a concept for possible improvements to the Lyman Point area. Superimposed on the satellite view of the Lyman Point area are images of picnic tables, paths, and shelter. Scott spoke of the big increase in numbers of residents in the downtown area (+300) that will be coming with new apartment building on Prospect St. and across river on Main St.. New residents will need places to recreate and be outdoors and improvements to Lyman Point will help meet that need. A grant of 325K could go toward this project if awarded. A project for the improvement of Lyman Point for recreational and park use will be presented by the Parks and Recreation Department to the Town Manager for consideration and possible prioritization.

Motion: Brett Mayfield – to support improvement plan concept for Lyman Point Park, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nikki Boyle and approved unanimously.

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## New Business

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Document Review – Evaluation Plan for the Parks and Recreation Department was briefly reviewed without any action taken. Commission members will review this document for further consideration at the next meeting.

There was a discussion about Commission members being given a tour of the Town's parks at the next meeting.

There was a discussion about questions 1 and 2 of the Community Center survey that will be sent to Town of Hartford residents. Suggestions for changes to the questions were made and adopted. The survey questionnaire will be further discussed at the next meeting after the tour if time allows.

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## Next Meeting

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October 19<sup>th</sup> @ 4:30 pm (One week later than usual to accommodate Scott's absence for a conference). Meet at municipal building for tour of town parks and recreational facilities.

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## Adjourn

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Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by: Brett Mayfield @ 6:26 pm

Seconded by:

All in Favor:

Opposed:

Respectfully submitted by: Thomas McCleary

Date: 9/14/2023

### **Hartford Parks & Recreation Commission Members**

Chair: David M. Crocco Jr. (7/25/2024)

Vice Chair: Allison Childs (04/04/2025)

Clerk: Tom McCleary (03/08/2024)

Member: Brett Mayfield (05/16/2025)

Member: Nikki Boyle (04/04/2025)

Vacant: (2 position)