

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
AGENDA
DECEMBER 10, 2012
7:00 P.M.
Long Hill Conference Room
Town Hall**

Call to order

Public Comments

Sports Groups

THS Varsity Swimming & Diving Team

Nature Commission

Election of Officers

Set Meeting Dates for 2013

Acceptance of Minutes

Correspondence

THS Varsity Swimming & Diving Team Email

Nature Commission – Hike Series Request

Old Business

New Business

Budget Review

Park Assignments/Committee Reports

Superintendent's Report

Recreation Director's Report

Any other business which might rightly come before this Commission

Adjournment

PLEASE CONTACT CLERK AT (203) 261-0129 IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND.

> Date: Wed, 14 Nov 2012 19:01:13 -0800
> From: pamgeorgas@att.net
> Subject: hike series request
> To: Joanatparks@Hotmail.com
> CC: Dparis@trumbull-ct.gov; dnelson@trumbull-ct.gov; therbst@trumbull-ct.gov
>
> Hi Joan
>
> We would like to please be put on the December Parks & Rec commission agenda to
> discuss the following:
>
> TNAC was recently approached by a young lady, Samantha Holmes a junior at
> Ridgefield High School.
>
> She was selected as the CT Youth Ambassador by Youth Service America and
> Festival of Children Foundation, Collaborating on Nationwide Youth Ambassadors
> Program
>
> "...The National Child Awareness Month Ambassador Program will engage youth
> leaders to develop
> large-scale campaigns around child welfare issues in their own communities.
> Fifty-one Youth
> Ambassadors, ages 16 to 22, will be selected: one per state, plus the District
> of Columbia. Youth
> Ambassadors craft campaigns that address specific, demonstrated child welfare
> issues in their
> communities, such as access to affordable healthcare, the drop-out crisis or
> child safety laws."
>
>
> See enclosed for further information on the Ambassador program. She has chosen
> and requested to partner with the Trumbull Nature & Arts Center as the host
> organization for her Lyme disease & Tick Awareness campaign.
>
> Her goal is to educate children on ticks and Lyme disease through hikes and
> other active programs. As Lyme disease is a serious illness, TNAC feels it is
> relevant and appropriate for TNAC and Trumbull to support her efforts to teach
> awareness on this issue, so that children can learn to safely enjoy the great
> outdoors in CT. She will also teach the children about types of native plants
> that repel ticks, and invasive plants that have proven to attract higher tick
> populations. I have also suggested that we offer her informational flyers to the
> Trumbull board of education for distribution, as they see appropriate.
>
> Below is her proposal. Dates requests for hikes to follow, She would like to
> hold childrens educational hikes once or twice a month for at least 4 months.
> She would like to request to utilize TNAC, Old Mine, Twin Brooks and the valley
> R2trails for these hikes. TNAC will promote the hikes through local media and
> social networks groups. Based on past similar TNAC childrens hikes, we would
> expect approx. 25 children per hike.
>
> National Child Awareness Month Proposal (Samantha Holmes):
> Nature Hikes: guided tours designed for children between the ages of 7 to 10. I
> would go with an adult and lead these hikes. Before the hikes, I would like to

- > ask the children quick tick trivia such as, "what is a tick? Can ticks hurt us?"
- > What can we do to keep ticks away from us?" And I will ask the same questions at
- > the end of the hike and (hopefully!) they'll be able to answer the questions
- > correctly and confidently. Also, they will be given a little anti tick kit with
- > a pamphlet, pencil, and sticker to remember what they have learned. At the end,
- > they can sign a large poster saying that they will work to be Lyme free.
- >
- > Presentations: B.L.A.S.T Lyme disease group of Ridgefield and The Norwalk River
- > Watershed Association have both offered to assist in presentations. Concise
- > power points will help to effectively spread the message. They can be
- > accompanied by activity books such as (). If the facility holds a screening
- > area, there also educational videos about Lyme disease that are designed for
- > children.
- > Anti-Tick Garden: Plants such as lavender, lemon grass, geranium, and pyrethrum
- > have all been proven to repel pests such as fleas and ticks. On April 26-28, I
- > would like to establish a garden with the aforementioned plants in order to have
- > a sustainable representation of the Lyme Disease Awareness project.
- >
- > thanks,
- >
- > Pam Georgas
- > Trumbull Nature Commission

> From: kgcarley@earthlink.net
> Subject: THS Boys and Girls Swimming and Diving Teams
> Date: Thu, 15 Nov 2012 18:51:21 -0500
> To: joanataparks@hotmail.com

>
> Dear Ms. Plouffe,

>
> I am requesting, on behalf of both the THS Boys and Girls Swimming and Diving Teams, to be placed on the agenda of your next meeting. We are requesting an audience in front of your board to allow the athlete's voices to be heard regarding the time change that was put in place at the last Parks and Recreation meeting. This change gave the Pisces recreational team 2 1/2 hours of practice time, leaving our Varsity athletes only 2 hours of pool time. There are many reasons why both the parents and swimmers feel that this is unjust. We would like the opportunity to share these points and ask Parks and Recreation Commission as well as the Board of Education, to overturn this change.

>
> Respectfully,

>
> Samuel Carley
> Captain
> THS Varsity Swimming & Diving Team

>
> (203) 459-8232
> (203) 209-1910