

Agenda
Trumbull Parks and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
Monday, April 10, 2023

Call to Order

Public Comment

Acceptance of Minutes

Correspondence

Geocache, Twin Brooks Park

LIVFREE 4th Annual Baseball and Softball Jamboree

Fitness Equipment into Twin Brooks Park

Old Business

New Business

Superintendent's Report

Division Reports

Any other business that might rightly come before the Commission

Adjournment

Parks and Recreation Commission

Regular Meeting: March 13, 2023

Town Council Chambers

Present: Kevin Bellows – Chair, Brian LeClerc, John O’Brien, Kat Lamy, Nancy Walsh, Mike Travisano

Absent: Ed Ritacco

Also Present: Abigail Whitmoyer – Clerk, Noreen Wilpiseszki – Recreation Department

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 PM

Public Comment Opened:

- Trumbull Timberwolves (TWolves) – Jeff Dobryney, 30 Hillandale Terrace
 - o I’ve been a softball coach for Trumbull Little League, this will be my 3rd year with the TWolves (only travel team for girl’s softball). 40 players on 3 teams, 8-13 years old. The success for the group is based on the volunteers, the 1 paid coach on staff and the players. We are requesting to host the Wolves Den Tournament on Friday June 16th-18th at Unity Park. Looking to begin at 5:00 PM, starting with about 48 players at that time. We are looking to utilize the little league softball fields. There will be 10-12 teams from in and out of the state coming to play (10 teams expected as of now, 12 players per team). We will be recommending local restaurants and hotels for families to go to or make reservations at. We are also looking to possibly bring in a food truck.
 - o Question: Bellows – Were the past 2 tournaments hosted in Trumbull successful?
 - Yes – they were at Unity and were successful.
 - o Comment: Wilpiseszki – The regular season is wrapping up at the end of May. The Little League tournament is in July. Greensfee is aware of the request as well.
 - Bellows – Only thing happening around this time would be practices.
 - o Question: Bellows – Are you aware that as a group 4 (resident playing nonresident teams) there is a fee for spot 4?
 - Yes, we are aware of the fees.
- Jeanine Capecelatro – Barnum Foundation, 412 Long Meadow Road, Orange. Barnum, 501 C3 in Shelton
 - o We have a group meeting at the Trumbull Marriott on June 16th. After the meeting they are looking to move to Unity Park for a Charity Softball event. We will be needing 2 fields, and are interested in getting our questions answered around field rentals. Looking to utilize the fields from 1-6 pm but are willing to structure around the town’s

parameters/park availability. There would be about 5-6 teams of 15 players plus spectators. Looking at bringing in a food truck.

- Looking at the little league fields (maybe 2 and 3), discussions on other parks/fields available and within proximity. (Island Brook Park – with 2 fields, hours will be determined with Noreen/Rec office, looking at 1:00-7:00 pm).
- Comment: Wilpiseski - \$87.50 per field per hour, every 3 games there must be a grooming of the fields
- Comment: Group – No Alcohol is allowed. Music is allowed within reason of the town's noise ordinance.

Motion to Close Public Comment:

Mike Travisano, 2nd by Brian LeClerc

Acceptance of Minutes from February Meeting aside from misspelling

Brian LeClerc, 2nd by Nancy Walsh, Abstained by Kat Lamy

Old Business:

- Cricket – Wilpiseski – We are waiting to hear back from cricket group after the tour. They are scheduled to continue using what they're currently using but may move over.
- Rugby – Wilpiseski – Group has put in permits for the season, they are a u-10 team using field 11 in front of Hillcrest and half of 14 when the HS is using just half for boys OR girls. Group 4 (resident playing nonresident teams). They are aware of fees for the fields.

New Business:

- CT TWolves
 - Requesting use of Unity Park fields for annual tournament on 6/16-6/18. The group will be assisting with grooming costs.
 - Motion to allow TWolves tournament to play on the Unity Park fields on 6/16-6/18 with food trucks adhering to field use policy
 - Motion by Brian LeClerc
 - Second by John O'Brien
 - Unanimous Vote - YES
- Barnum Foundation for Life
 - Requesting use of fields at Island Brook Park on Friday 6/16 from 1:00-7:00 PM with food trucks and music (within noise ordinance levels)
 - Motion to approve the softball games at Island Brook Park on June 16th from 12:00-7:00, with the use of 2 softball fields, food trucks approve by town and music (within noise ordinance)

- Motion by Mike Travisano
 - Second by Nancy Walsh
 - Unanimous Vote - YES
- Facebook - Kat Lamy
 - There have been numerous critical comments about parks, especially that “Twin Brooks is in disarray, bridges at Old Mine are not open, and complaints on Indian Ledge.” People are talking about tax increased and the “pride in our parks” but parks are “not up to par.” Question: Do taxpayers know that the information is on the website under “spotlights.”
 - Comment: LeClerc – Do we need to be more up to date on the website? Dmitri made a point that things fluctuate currently between weather, etc.
 - Comment: Walsh – Taxpayer may not want to weed through meeting minutes to find updates about parks.
 - Question: Is it possible to let Eagle Scouts complete a parks project under the supervision of the superintendent?
 - Comment: Lamy – Maybe a landing page for “status of parks?” – Is this possible?
 - Response: Wilpieszski – This would be an IT project if it could be made to happen. (K. Lamy is happy to assist IT with the project).
- Pickleball
 - We are going in a slightly different direction with reservations (last year there were issues with people turning a resident permit into open play). Met with both sides of the issue to find the best option.
 - Social play (for group gatherings) – this will be a club that people will have to join. Members will be given a parking permit that matches their license plate. (Using all 6 courts – MWF 9-12 at unity, T-TH 9-12 at Island Brook). This will be available for nonresidents and residents. Spring/Summer. Updates should be coming to the website soon. Price - \$25 for resident, \$45 for non-resident. March → May, June → August, September → November, there will be separate permits for these.
 - There will be an opportunity to do tournaments/ladders.
 - Regular permit will have no charge (1 permit to a group of 4)
 - Senior – Will work with the senior center if they come and ask for a permit.
 - Weekends – Permit play only.
 - Everything can be done online now. There will be levels per court (beginner, intermediate, advanced).
- Tashua Update
 - Wilpieszski – The lit courts will be getting renovated. 2 tennis courts and 8 pickleball courts fit within the blueprint.
 - Will hopefully have 20 pickleball courts by the end of summer.
 - Wilpieszski – Considering a pickleball camp but have to put the idea on hold until next summer with all the changes being put into place this year.

Superintendent’s Report: Emailed out.

Division Report:

- Recreation – Wilpiseski
 - Ukelele classes (3) will all be running, and salary will be covered for the teacher.
 - 950 registrations for spring and summer courses (since March 1)
 - Activities are paying for themselves.
 - Camp has been re-vamped, and price increased, no ill-effects for signups, 10 spots left in camp sessions. Camp will be able to go inside of schools this year instead of needing to cancel the day based on bad weather (talked with BOE). No before or aftercare, instead – hours were extended.
 - Question: Lamy – Do we have the capacity to offer more?
 - Response: Wilpiseski – It’s difficult to expand when we only have Indian Ledge to house it.
 - Egg-travaganza – April 1st, rain date April 8th, 11:00 AM at Town Hall Green

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion by Brian LeClerc

Second by Kat Lamy

Unanimous Vote - YES

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Report March-April 2023

Parks and Recreation crews continue to prepare parks, town and park facilities and numerous town-wide plantings for the upcoming spring and summer months. Work during the past month includes:

- Ongoing landscape work in Twin Brooks Park. We have cleaned up and mulched plant beds, pruned understory trees and transplanted material to make way for a future sidewalk. We have removed organic matter from the Twin Brooks construction site.
- Door repair continues in Unity and Twin Brooks parks. Work here revealed unexpected need for repair of the walls around the doors.
- Crews are currently activating turf irrigation systems.
- New lawn at Indian Ledge has been overseeded to increase turf density.

In Tashua Knolls, contracted work on construction of pickleball courts has begun.

RECREATION REPORT

April 2023

Basketball season has ended and we are actively preparing for summer! Registration for Trumbull Parks & Recreation Summer Programs began on March 1st. Currently, there are over 900 registrations for various camps, swim lessons, and spring programs. Spring sessions of tennis lessons, karate, ukulele, pickleball, outdoor fitness, yoga, and more start mid-March through early-May; we have something for everyone! With the scheduled construction at Tashua Knolls we have moved our spring tennis lessons to Unity Park and THS for summer. Registration for TYA Summer Musical Theater programs will begin on Monday April 3.

We are NOW HIRING for lifeguards, ~~gate-monitors~~*, and camp counselors. All applicants must apply through HR by using the online portal found on the town website. Interviews will be conducted in late March/early April for LG/GM and late April/early May for Camp Counselors.

*We received over 40 applications for Gate Monitors and only needed to fill 3 vacancies! Our returning staff is at about 75% for both LG and Camp Counselors.

Other:

- Eggstravaganza has been postponed to Saturday April 8th @ 11am Town Hall Green
- Office closed April 7
- Summer Concert Series begins June 27

Hello,

I'm writing to request permission to place a geocache in Twin Brooks park. If you are not familiar with the term geocache, it's the focal point of a sport called geocaching (<https://www.geocaching.com/play>). This entails a person hiding a small container (the geocache), usually containing a log book and trinkets, then using a Global Positioning System receiver (GPSr) to mark the longitude and latitude of the geocache. The coordinates are then published on the Internet to allow others to find it.

I would like to hide a geocache out in Twin Brooks park near already established trails. The expected number of visitors based on the similar geocaches nearby is 1 or 2 per month on average. The participants would not interfere with the regular use of the park since it would be limited to people who live nearby or have a Trumbull parking sticker. The cache container will be small, unobtrusive, and hidden from view. If it turns out ever to become a problem, you may just ask me as the cache owner to remove it. If my family should ever leave the game, I am responsible to remove all my caches by archiving them and disposing of the containers properly. Many geocachers are good stewards of the environment and community and we help each other out by maintaining the longevity and appearance of caches and removing trash and debris from cache hide sites (it's called Cache In/Trash_Out).

Thank You,

Michael Zakharov
[24 Woodhill Rd](#)
[Trumbull CT 06611](#)

LIVFREE'S FOURTH ANNUAL BASEBALL & SOFTBALL JAMBOREE

Proposal for LIVFREE'S Baseball & Softball Jamboree

Our Proposal We are requesting to host our 4th annual baseball/softball jamboree at Unity Park on September 22nd, 23rd and 24th, 2023. We will be hosting teams from all over Connecticut to play games and raise funds for pediatric cancer patients. The hours of operation for the jamboree will be Friday 3PM-10PM, Saturday 7AM - 10PM and Sunday 8AM - 5PM

Our purpose We intend to bring a fun and competitive baseball/softball jamboree to Trumbull. Ultimately, this event is intended to raise funds for LIVFREE, a charity that helps children fighting pediatric cancer. LIVFREE's mission is to fight pediatric cancer with smiles. We provide tickets, meals and transportation to family friendly events to help give these families a break from cancer and treatments.

Fields We are requesting to use all of the baseball and softball fields at Unity Park.

Public Safety/Sanitation If necessary, police and ambulance will be available as needed. The jamboree will be tended by staff at all times with safety rules clearly stated and strictly enforced. We will have an insurance policy of \$2M and will also cover the Town of Trumbull weeks prior to the event.

Vendors/Attractions In addition to the jamboree, we will also have small booths set up to showcase our charity and other local sponsors. Our organization will be selling branded merchandise with proceeds supporting our cause. Donations will also be accepted on site.

Food If allowed, we will have local licensed food trucks selling food to participants. Bottled drinks will also be sold.

Additional Notes We have hosted this event for the past 3 years and have raised over \$50,000 to support our mission. The jamboree has been held at Seaside park in Bridgeport and references are available if needed. We are fairly flexible with dates to accommodate any league play already established in Trumbull. Alternative dates could be the weekend of September 29th or October 6th.

Contact Info For more information on LIVFREE, including our mission, please visit our websites at www.livfreetoday.org. For questions or concerns please email at daniel@livfreetoday.org or call at 203-685-6624

Kevin,

I hope all is well.

My name is Rob Librandi and I am the Town Land Use Planner for Trumbull. I figure I would reach out to you as you are the Chairman of the Park and Rec Commission.

As of Recent numerous communities around us Fairfield, Westport, Darien and Bridgeport have constructed outdoor workout areas in their parks. Having a workout area in this location would be a great benefit to the town. We have so many playgrounds for children to get fresh air and enjoy the outdoors it would be nice for Adults to have something as well besides walking and biking on the trail. I fell the location shown below would be perfect as it is connected to the trail and is located near the playground so parents can watch their children as they workout as well. During Covid outdoor fitness areas were very utilized as they we a place to exercise in an open air environment. The new designs are low maintenance and are not very expensive depending on the design. I believe if we "Activate this space" we would get a lot of positive response from the community. I did speak to Dimitri about this in the past and I know he has a lot of other pressing matters but I would just like to start the conversation and bring it to your attention.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do on my part.

Warm Regards,
Rob Librandi

