AGENDA
Trumbull Parks and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
Monday, May 9, 2022
7:00 p.m., Council Chambers

I. Call to order
II. Public Comment
   a. Nancy Novak—American Artist, LLC
   b. Pickleball representative(s)
   c. Richard Post, Sustainable Trumbull
III. Acceptance of Minutes
   a. Regular meeting of March 14, 2022
   b. Regular meeting of April 11, 2022
IV. Correspondence
V. Old Business
VI. New Business
   a. Pickleball windscreens
VII. Superintendent’s Report
VIII. Division Reports
   a. Recreation
   b. Park Rangers
IX. Any other business that might rightly come before this Commission
X. Adjournment
MEETING MINUTES
Parks and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
Monday, March 14, 2022

In attendance:
Kevin Bellows, Chairman
Mike Travisano, Vice Chairman
Brian LeClerc
Ken Martin
Jon O’Brien
Ed Ritacco (7:08 p.m.)
Nancy Walsh

Also in attendance:
Dmitri Paris, Superintendent of Parks

Not in attendance:
Bill Brown

Guests:
Chris Gombos, 22 Veres St., Fairfield
Jennifer Iannucci, 46 Driftwood Lane
Richard Post, Sustainable Trumbull

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Gombos appeared as a representative of Trumbull BMX to ask for the Commission’s approval to offer overnight RV camping for BMX Nationals on August 18 through August 21, 2022. Wristbands would be issued for those who have permission for overnight camping. Mr. Gombos also provided details about food service and sanitation. The organization is has been actively working with Mr. Paris and the Parks Department on logistics for the event.

Ms. Iannucci appeared to request permission to use Twin Brooks Park for a fundraiser in support of Ukraine on April 9 at 10:00 a.m. Registration and donations will be handled by Ms. Iannucci and her staff at Trumbull Physical Therapy and Wellness. She has been provided a list of needed items by the Ukrainian Society in Southport. Ms. Iannucci projects an attendance of 20-50 people and is not requesting use of any pavilions.

Mr. Post presented Sustainable Trumbull’s proposal to include informational QR codes in park locations. The presentation (attached) included samples of the codes as well as the information contained therein. Many of the codes link back to Town of Trumbull website pages. The codes would contain information
relevant to the physical location, such as historical background, trail maps, and best practices. The codes can be printed in different sizes and media (such as aluminum signage or removable decals).

MOTION to close public comment made by Mr. LeClerc, seconded by Mr. O’Brien. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

MOTION to accept February 14 meeting minutes made by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Travisano.

VOTE: 5-0-2 (LeClerc, Ritacco)

Mr. Bellows acknowledged the correspondence from Mr. McKeil regarding the Hardy Lane property. Mr. Martin suggested the email should also be sent to the Land Acquisition committee. The clerk confirmed that Mr. McKeil did indeed copy Land Acquisition on his email.

The commission discussed the request from Mr. Hall on behalf of the BoFish Triathlon to route the kids’ race onto Twin Brooks Drive.

MOTION to approve BoFish Triathlon use of Beach Memorial parking area and Twin Brooks Drive made by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mrs. Walsh. Motion carried unanimously.

After the vote, it was noted that construction staging in Twin Brooks Park might affect the access on Twin Brooks Drive. The gates will be closed to vehicular traffic, but pedestrians will still be able to access.

MOTION to amend previous to approve volunteer parking at Beach Memorial and invite the tournament organizers to attend the April 11th Commission meeting to provide further details of the intended route of the kids’ run into Twin Brooks Park. The motion to amend was seconded by Mr. O’Brien and carried by unanimous consent.

While the Commission agreed that a fundraiser for Ukraine is a timely and worthwhile endeavor, the timing of the request was problematic. In addition to construction staging at Twin Brooks, the Commissioners have additional questions they would like answered. Mr. Paris asked the Commission to consider if there is any responsibility or liability to allowing fundraising efforts without vetting. Mr. Martin noted that another fundraiser using the trail was shut down because no permission had been granted. Mr. Bellows noted the movie night fundraiser at Indian Ledge and the detail with which that request is submitted.

MOTION to deny fundraiser in support of Ukraine made by Mr. Ritacco, seconded by Mr. Martin.

Mr. Martin and Mr. Ritacco both noted that permit requests are typically submitted in advance of and voted on during regular monthly meetings.

MOTION to deny Ms. Iannucci’s permit request and invite her to appear at the April 11th meeting to provide further detail made by Mr. Ritacco, seconded by Mr. O’Brien.

VOTE: 6-0-1 (Walsh)
Mr. Travisano asked if the number of overnight campers can be capped for the BMX tournament. Mr. Paris said that is possible once a decision is made as to whether overnight camping will be allowed, and if so, what the appropriate locations are within the park.

MOTION to approve overnight camping at the BMX Nationals pending the Park Superintendent’s evaluation of available space for campers and car parking and his recommendation on allowable numbers made by Mr. Travisano, seconded by Mr. LeClerc. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

Mr. Paris acknowledged that the concept of QR codes within the parks systems is a valuable idea. Within his department, there are concerns with regard to capturing the data, where the data goes, and adding the information to the Parks and Recreation system. He would like the QR codes to direct to Town sites so that the information is vetted and approved. Mr. Leclerc expressed concern about data security in relation to the Google group email. The Sustainable group will work with the Director of Technology in order to set up a secure and compliant way for residents to respond to the survey and ask questions.

MOTION to approve the installation of QR codes with the stipulation that the committee work with Mr. Paris on content accuracy and location considerations as well as coordinate with the Director of Technology to ensure data security made by Mr. LeClerc, seconded by Mr. Martin. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

Mr. Paris shared concept art for the renovation of Twin Brooks Park. The proposed designs will be posted within the park as well. Mrs. Walsh asked about speed reduction, and Mr. Paris said there are some concepts being considered for the purpose of controlling vehicle speed. He also added that pedestrian traffic is being moved off the roadway with the new design. He explained how the new design will protect the walking path from the elements. Reservoirs will be tied together so that high water levels won’t cause problems in paved areas.

Mrs. Walsh asked about the opening of the pickleball courts. Mr. Paris explained that, in general, courts across town open on April 1st. This is consistent with surrounding towns.

There being no further business before the Commission, a MOTION to adjourn was made by Mr. LeClerc, seconded by Mr. O’Brien. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 p.m.
MEETING MINUTES
Parks and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
April 11, 2022

In attendance:
Kevin Bellows, Chairman
Mike Travisano, Vice Chairman
Brian LeClerc
Ken Martin
Nancy Walsh

Also in attendance:
Dmitri Paris, Superintendent of Parks
Noreen Wilpiszeski, Program Manager, Recreation

Guests:
Lynn Scully, 29 McGuire Road
Laurie Kasiewicz, 21 Moorland Road
William Selski, 8 Harwood Terrace
Daniel Schopick, Esq., Town Attorney

Not in attendance:
Bill Brown
Jon O’Brien
Ed Ritacco

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Mrs. Scully and Ms. Kasiewicz appeared before the Commission to request permission to collect donations during a reunion picnic for the Trumbull High School Class of 1979 (THS79). The purpose of the event is not to fundraise, however, attendees who wish to contribute to the Scott Jeffries Scholarship may do so during the picnic. The scholarship funds are maintained and awarded by the Trumbull High School scholarship program.

MOTION to hear from Mr. Selski made by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. LeClerc. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

Mr. Selski asked for an update on the Gunther Pond Park project; additionally, he noted that the clock across from Town Hall does not keep time properly and asked if it is going to be repaired. Mr. Paris explained that the timekeeping module inside the clock is not communicating properly with the satellite responsible for setting the time and needs to be replaced.
As for Gunther Pond Park, Mr. Paris answered that the contractors for the work have been selected, and the next step is to choose a start date. He noted that Mr. Maurer in Engineering may be able to provide more specifics, but Mr. Paris’ estimation is that the work will begin in August.

MOTION to close public comment made by Mr. Travisano, seconded by Mrs. Walsh. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

Approval of minutes was tabled due to a page being missing. The clerk will amend the minutes and provide them to the Commission for approval at the May meeting.

Richard Post sent several updates from the Sustainable Trumbull QR Code team, detailing where codes that link to the survey are located. The survey is now live. The team will continue to work with the Town and the Parks Department on the codes and their content.

Jennifer Iannucci sent further details on her proposed fundraiser in support of Ukraine. Unfortunately, she was unable to change the date of her fundraiser and therefore sought an alternative location.

Ian Hall contacted the clerk to say that the BoFish Tournament would not be seeking permission for the kids’ race to include a portion of Twin Brooks Park.

A permit application was forwarded from the Parks and Recreation Department for a water lantern festival. The request is for up to 2,000 people to attend the festival at Twin Brooks Park. Some questions were raised regarding the applicant not being a Trumbull resident. In addition, the construction at the park seriously limits capacity. Ms. Wilpiszeski also noted that lanterns are against CT State fire safety statutes. No representative of the organization has requested to appear before the Commission.

There is no update on the Hillcrest Pool. A joint meeting of the Community Facilities Building Committee and Aquatics Facilities Building Committee on Wednesday, April 13.

Mr. Martin asked about the results of the recent budget hearings, particularly in terms of staffing and the Park Rangers. Mr. Paris indicated that he would address those items in his report.

The Commission discussed the request from THS79 to collect donations during their event. As the event is not being advertised as a fundraiser, and is not being held for the sole purpose of fundraising, the Commission voted to approve.

MOTION to approve THS79 picnic permit request made by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. LeClerc. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

Mr. Paris began his report by addressing some plumbing concerns, particularly a broken pipe at Beaches lifeguard station affecting the ceiling, a break at Kaechele, and a leak in the Babe Ruth press box.

Work at Town Hall Green will begin this week, improving sidewalks and installing site furnishings, including permanent seating.

The full-size field at Jane Ryan School is again available to Parks and Recreation. The Parks Department is working diligently to get the field ready for use as a practice field. Mr. Paris noted that the field being available is a tremendous help to the department and various leagues.
Work at Indian Ledge Park is set to begin next week, including the BMX lot, lot between fields 1 and 2 and the roadway adjacent to the dog park. Additional work will also be done near the playground and picnic area, including sidewalks and expanding parking.

Sidewalk installation work at Twin Brooks Park has begun. More details and design plans are available on the Parks and Recreation website and social media. Residents are still able to use the park during this phase of construction.

Mr. Paris offered to pause his report in order to allow Attorney Schopick to discuss the fundraising issue with the Commission.

Mr. Schopick noted that once the Commission opens the parks up to fundraisers it becomes difficult to say yes to some and no to others. He suggested requiring liability insurance, a bond for potential damages, and similar considerations. He did not think the town would be liable if an organization was determined to be fraudulent after the fact. Some Commissioners raised concerns that group who meet the criteria may be controversial, however the Commission cannot be in a position to judge the mission of certain organizations. Ultimately, the Commission needs to create a set of criteria to be applied to all fundraising requests. Mr. Schopick will bring the issue to the Town Attorneys meeting next week and let the Commission know what their thoughts are.

Discussion of the Superintendent’s report continued. Mr. Paris will evaluate the leak in the Babe Ruth press box and see if turning off the water will fix the problem. Mr. Bellows asked if the league can source the repairs itself since parent volunteers built the original structure.

Mr. Martin asked about plans for the Long Hill Green area. Mr. Paris replied that to his knowledge, there has been no final design concept. The fencing was removed at the insistence of the state. The Economic Development department may have more information on plans for the space.

The courts at Island Brook Park are set to be fully renovated, including the conversion of the basketball court into additional pickleball courts.

Mr. Paris said that the budget process has been very challenging this year. There were no realistic increases, including staffing. His department did a needs assessment, and ultimately decided to reconfigure the Assistant Program Manager position Recreation Department into a full-time Park Ranger position. The assistant program manager is ideally suited to the position having been with the Town for a number of years, and is fully on board with the change. Nothing will happen until the final budget is approved.

Mr. Martin expressed concern that losing the assistant program manager places a burden on Ms. Wilpszeski. She noted that the automation of certain processes and the closure of Hillcrest pool makes it difficult to justify keeping the full-time assistant position, in addition to the program supervisors who assist with summer programming.

Mr. Paris reminded the Commission that the Ranger staff is constantly in flux because of hourly restrictions on seasonal employees. The addition of a full-time ranger allows for more consistent coverage in the parks.

Ms. Wilpszeski gave an overview of upcoming programming that was detailed in her report to the Commission, including movie nights, concert series, and Easter egg hunt.
Mr. Martin noted his concern about safe access to the caretaker’s cottage, citing muddy conditions, and asked if some plywood can be put down to make access. Mr. Paris will look at the situation and try to come up with a solution.

MOTION to adjourn made by Mr. LeClerc, seconded by Mr. Martin. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by Laura Shiel
To All,

Ken, thank you for inviting me as a guest to the May 9th, Parks and Recreation meeting. It will be wonderful to explain my program to the group and to thank Dmitri, Noreen, and all the staff.

In addition, I will resend/send my highlights [to all] by adding:
- Commission Clerk, Laura Shiel
- Chairman, Kevin Bellows

Again, thank you; I appreciate the invitation to attend your meeting as a guest.

Have a very nice day!

Sincerely,
Nancy Novack

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On Sun, Apr 24, 2022 at 6:26 AM Ken Martin wrote:

Fabulous Nancy,

Thank you for this summary and we would look forward to future "art" sessions you may offer...

I would like to invite you to the next Parks and Rec meeting on Monday, 5/9 at 7 pm. The Commission Clerk, (Laura Shiel) and Chairman, (Kevin Bellows) are copied. Please send your highlights as well to Laura and Kevin so this can be added to correspondence and also to place you on the agenda as a guest.

This will give you the opportunity to explain your camp to the entire commission and also your gratitude to Dmitri and Noreen, (with staff) in arranging access to the caretakers' cottage in the orchard at Abraham Woods Park in Nichols.

Best,
Ken

Ken Martin
1676 Huntington Turnpike
Trumbull, CT 06611
Hi All

I attached the "parent/guardian" letter to this email to describe the camp's events...this letter is VERY IMPORTANT to describe the contents of the take home bag and the description of the lessons.

Noreen, I will be sending you another copy of the parent letter on a separate email so you can forward it if you don't want to cut and paste. PLEASE SEND PARENT LETTER OUT TODAY.

Just want to say... the camp location at the Woods Estate in beautiful Abraham Nichols Park was perfect. Dmitri, thank you again for making this happen.

Home Office: 59 Hilltop Drive, Trumbull, CT 06611
To All,

I appreciate the invitation to attend the May 9th meeting as a guest.

It will be wonderful to highlight the successful camp I held in April [partnering with recreation/Noreen]; and furthermore, to discuss the wonderful job that Dmitri and team is doing at the Woods Estate/Abraham Nichols Park for Trumbull residents.

I attached the Audubon camp parent letter. I will be bringing the letter to the meeting; it highlights the wonderful activities that took place at the camp.

Sincerely,
Nancy Novack
Dear Parents/Guardians,

All campers learned a "touch of" John Audubon's life AND had fun with creative art projects. The following are some of the highlights of the camp and what is in the take-home bag:

**Woodpecker Art Piece**

- **K-3 AMERICAN ARTIST** campers used crayon to fill-in the colors on a red-headed "woodpecker cut-out" that was provided to them... all artists wanted to use red for the red cap on the woodpecker's head! Next, campers used watercolor paints to create their background [tree trunk and sky]. The children learned that a lot of "water" was needed when creating a watercolor painting by even needing to dip their fingers into their water bowl and then spread the water on the paper! All campers were very surprised with all the water and watching the paint flow into the water. Campers also acted out a fun woodpecker poem and a poem about preening [found in the John James Audubon booklet].

- **4-6 AMERICAN ARTIST** campers used oil pastel media to create their red-headed woodpecker art piece. The art lesson focused on 1. placement of "drawing in" their woodpecker [How large is the woodpecker? Does the bird take up most of the paper or just a little area? What corner does the tail point to?]. 2. Next, the campers learned to "Draw What You See" and not what you think it should be. Campers found shapes or basic objects within the woodpecker; typically, the brain wants to think what a head or tail should be. Next, the background consisted of the large tree trunk with green foliage behind the tree with lots of room for creativity. All art pieces were wonderfully unique such as one AMERICAN ARTIST deciding that the "pencil drawing" did not even need the pastels and another deciding to add in bright pink flowers within the greenery. All campers created stunning pieces of art. During drawing time, campers listened to interesting facts about woodpeckers and listened to a bird poem written by Emily Dickinson.
Black-Capped Chickadee Watercolor Painting [with crayon for details]

BOTH GROUPS: All campers were provided with patterns to trace the outline of the two birds...nothing more [with the older group having the choice of drawing the top bird without the pattern]. All campers decided that the bottom chickadee would be the more difficult chickadee to draw and fill-in the details. The outline shape of the birds forced “Drawing What You See” and not what you think it should be the ONLY OPTION. For example...What shapes can be found inside the top bird’s tail? Answers varied: “I think the tail on the top bird looks like two popsicle sticks” or the tail looks like “two skinny ovals pointing to the top corner of the paper. For the bottom difficult bird observations included... “I think the wings on the bottom bird have the letter “v” between the two wings” or “I see a square and an attached triangle in one of the wings”.

K-3 listened to stories about Chickadees and birdhouses while the 4-6 group listened to facts about the different uses of bird feathers, flight travel, and a few basic facts about John Audubon.

Ruby-Throated Hummingbird

K-3 AMERICAN ARTISTS campers began with listening to a story [they acted out] about a little hummingbird bird named Ruby and her adventures from birth to an adult

Next, they drew their hummingbird and flowers through formal art instruction! Please understand... “art brain training” is wonderful starting at an early age! Instruction began an oval [head] drawn onto each camper’s paper to help campers with the general size of the bird [many children draw very small]. After that, campers added “shapes” through teacher-modeling, following step-by-step what I was drawing in the front of the room. For each bird part to be drawn, emphasis was placed on “Drawing What You See” and not what you think it should be. All the children were surprised that the flower petals were all pointing down like raindrops [Drawing What You See] and not going completely around the flower [what they thought]...though, one little artist wanted to keep the petals going all around the flowers which of course stayed and looked beautiful!

4-6 AMERICAN ARTISTS had a lesson on the importance of pre-drawing “Placement Mapping” of the bird and the flowers [by drawing the basic shapes in first to determine where and how large the objects in the drawing should be]. It is wonderful that this concept was introduced, but with this age artist, they are used to just “digging in” and drawing [part-by-part] with all the details. This simple concept can take more instruction than one lesson for some students, but emphasis on this idea was a great starting point. Again, “Drawing What You See” was also emphasized and campers were left working on their own [Mrs. Novack checked in to suggest drawing techniques] with colored pencils and adding in the details. Campers had time to chat with each [that is between times that I [Mrs. Novack] wasn’t reading or giving surprising facts about the ruby-throated hummingbird!] Some campers finished early and had the opportunity to create other paintings [anything they wanted] ...all the paintings were beautiful!
Other Projects

- **Hummingbird feeder for K-3**: Campers painted a red cap that replaces the “traveling” cap on the glass jar. Young campers had fun being “bird chefs” mixing regular table sugar with water and had fun counting! *Please exchange the liquid “nectar” [following the ratio below in the 4-6 description] because the batch you have now is LOADED with sugar! In your bag you will find fishing line to tie the feeder to a tree. The reason for the fishing line [and not regular ribbon or string] is to keep ants from invading the feeder; supposedly, ant can’t walk on fishing line!

- **Hummingbird feeder for 4-6**: Campers painted their caps and learned *the ratio for the “nectar” = 1 part sugar to 4 parts of water*. For example, 1 tablespoon of sugar to 4 tablespoons of water; they also tied the fishing line onto their flowered caps.

- The “pinecone treat” is made with suet for the woodpeckers; just tie it to a tree branch or any other object you want to try.

- **Flowerpot**: Campers planted seeds of the perennial, “red poppy” ...a hummingbird favorite! If you do not see seeds coming up in a week to 10 days, you might want to try again by just *sprinkling* these baby seeds [found at a gardening center] on top of the dirt in the pot...some of our little campers were patting down shifting seeds.

- The birdhouse is for a chickadee or a wren. These birds do not mind if you attach the birdhouse to a chain to it and hang it from a tree or placed securely on a surface!

I hope everyone had a great time and hope to see you again!

*Please continue to check www.LiteracyALL.com as more offerings will be added!*

Go now to online registration through Trumbull Parks and Recreation, **MAY 14, SATURDAY** WORKSHOP, PLAY-DOH TURNS 66! The flyer for [complete description] is on the American Artist website www.LiteracyALL.com.

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**Draw, Paint, Create.... with a Touch of America’s Past!**

Nancy Novack, American Artist, LLC
Hi Dmitry and Kevin,

We’re ready to make the final QR signs (attached) for Old Mine and Parlor Rock, and install them, but would first like your thoughts. We removed the email reference as a .gov solution was not available. Both signs link to Town URLs. These are being done at no cost to the Town, and the signs are being professionally made by a fellow QR sign group member, John Massari, via his sign business Accent Signs.

The Old Mine QR links to the existing map and history pamphlet. I had hoped to be able to modify the map with additional details but this shall have to wait, as I understand you (Dmitry) and Steve in Engineering are working on new trail maps. Once done these could be a great asset for future QR signs so hikers had a way to immediately access, in real-time, maps for where they are hiking.

If I can assist with new map content, please let me know.

As you know, Sustainable Trumbull is installing QR signs as a test to see if the Town may implement a larger QR sign program for our parks, trails and buildings. We recently completed a sustainable survey for those who “live, work or play” in Trumbull, that utilized QR signs (“Phase I”) as one way to get participants for the survey – you may have seen these in the libraries, Town Hall, Stop N Shop and select trails and parks.

The attached two QR signs are for the next QR beta test phase (“Phase II”) and will be installed in the near future unless you ask us not to do so.

We have also contacted Historical Society regarding a sign on the Hawley building and George regarding the Transfer Station. Once additional content becomes available on a Town URL we may want to include signs for those locations as well.
I can be reached by phone at 203.268.4804 and email of course. Let me know if you’d like me to meet with you, if we can install the sign in the near future, and if you have any suggestions. Thanks.

Best,

Richard Post
(Sustainable Trumbull, Conservation Commission, CERT)
OLD MINE PARK

SCAN ME FOR

• Trail Maps
• History
• Information
• Amazing park history
• One of 1st amusement parks (1877)
• Visitors arrived by train
• Former railroad bed is now our trail
Laura Shiel

From: Kevin Bellows
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2022 5:06 PM
To: Laura Shiel; Ken Martin; Mike Travisano; billbrown
Jon O'Brien; bill and/or nancy walsh; halligan96
Subject: Fw: Parks and Rec meeting /Pickleball

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hillary,

I will forward your email to our clerk to have you added to the agenda of our May meeting.

Kevin Bellows

From: Hillary Yellen
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2022 3:15 PM
To: Kevin Bellows <kbellows@msn.com>
Cc: Jon Paul Favretto ; dparis@trumbull-ct.gov
Subject: Parks and Rec meeting /Pickleball

Hi Kevin,

I am reaching out to you on behalf of the Trumbull picklballers to see if we can get on the upcoming Parks and Rec agenda for the next parks and rec commission meeting in early May. As you may know, many of us have been enjoying the new pickleball courts. The issue that we would like to discuss is putting up windscreens around the courts. The spring months have seen good crowds but the constant breezes/winds make play very challenging since the ball is so light. The light winds and breeze have a huge impact on our games and we would love the opportunity to get the screens up this season so we can enjoy the courts to the fullest. JP has mentioned that this would probably cost around $8000.

Can we get this on the upcoming agenda?
Thanks for your consideration.
Hillary yellen
CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Mr. Favretto,

Thank you for the correspondence. We will be addressing this issue at our next commissioners meeting.

Sincerely,

Kevin Bellows
Chairman

Dear Commissioners,

I'd like to ask for you all to consider getting some windscreens for the Pickleball courts at Unity Park. This Spring has been brutal with wind and though it may not affect the tennis players much it really hampers Pickleball games. Today has been a beautiful day at the park and while games have been manageable the gusts coming from the valley can turn games into a circus act. I was given a rough ballpark estimate last year from the company who installed our courts for 8-10k just for the Pickleball side fencing. I'm sure with the current state of inflation they are much more now.

I recently played in a tournament in New York and their courts had them along with an AED which I also think we should pursue getting. The screens did the job as we had over 20mph gusts while playing. They had a fundraiser for lights at the courts and I love the idea of possibly trying to do something similar for screens here at Unity.

Thank you for your consideration.

JP Favretto
Pinewood Trail
Bill,

Thank you for the kind words. It is always a pleasure to hear positive comments regarding our parks system. I will forward your email to the other members of the commission as well as Dmitri Paris the Parks superintendent.

Sincerely,
Kevin Bellows

Hello Mr. Bellows,

I wanted to share with you and the fellow commissioners how awesome it was that my sophomore son and his Trumbull High classmates spent their free time on Sunday afternoon, May 1st at Unity just playing basketball, wiffle ball, and throwing the football for hours. It was about 20 of them, with only 1 that drives. They then walked to Trumbull Center and hung out/ate at Fatty Patty’s where I picked him up around 5.

First of all, Unity looks better than ever, and it also made me appreciate all the various projects that have been ongoing to connect our parks and improve pedestrian access from different parts of our town to Trumbull Center. Certainly that group of boys utilized and appreciated it too.

Thank you and have a good day!
Bill Mecca
RECREATION REPORT

May 2022

Spring Session 2 of Recreation Classes are starting in early May and running through June at the Indian Ledge Barn and Twin Brooks Park (with Indian Ledge as the backup in case of inclement weather). Hiring for summer seasonal staff is wrapping up with Beaches Pool opening May 28 and Tashua Pool opening June 18 and various camps starting at the end of June/beginning of July.

Other:

- Successful Eggstravaganza held on April 16 at Town Hall with approx. 175 families and 20 volunteers
- Upcoming Movie Nights:
  - May 17 and June 14 @ Town Hall Green
  - June 22 @ Tashua Pool
- Sunday Cabaret Concert Series @ 4pm: Town Hall Gazebo May 8- June 19
- Summer Concert Series Tuesday @ 7pm: Town Hall Gazebo June 28- August 23
- Children’s Concert Series Tuesday @ 10am: Twin Brooks Park June 28 – August 9
- Arts Festival September 18 @ 10am-4pm: Town Hall Green
Commissioners,

This report is a summary of the Ranger Division activities for the April 2022. The Spring time begins the start of the busy season. Baseball began in full swing and Recreation programs started at Indian Ledge and Abraham Nichols. The tennis and pickleball courts saw an increase in activity, as well as all the trails. Rangers increased a presence at the sports fields addressing issues with adherence with the Field Use Policy and assisted with the opening and securing of facilities and buildings. In April we saw an increase in litter at the Great Oak Parking Lot on Dayton Rd and Damage to Park Property at the Quarry Rd Area. Loose dogs remain an issue at the trail head and sprinkler park at Indian Ledge. When Staff increases we will be expanding our patrols of those areas to fully address these issues.

In April, Rangers responded and took 22 written reports for issues such as, Damage to Park Property, Dumping and Littering, camping, Dogs off Leash, and Prohibited Parking. There were 64 parking violations issued and 8 written parking warnings. 4 written warning were issued for dog off leash and prohibited parking.

There were 2 special events which included Tidy Up Trumbull and a Pressure Rockets Program.

1 New Ranger was hired and will begin training in early May and we are in the process of interviewing other candidates to fill positions from recently departed rangers.

Respectfully Submitted
Steven Chapman
Chief Park Ranger