

**Agenda**  
Trumbull Parks and Recreation Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, August 14, 2023

Call to Order

Public Comment

Zachary Wisnefsky, Ethan Wicko, Alex McLeod – Transcend Bicycle, 10/14 Indian Ledge Event  
Chris Gombas – BMX, September Indian Ledge Event  
Ajit Puthiyavettle – 5K Walk-A-Thon to support veterans  
Michael Murray – Community Garden Improvement

Acceptance of Minutes

Correspondence

Old Business

New Business

Superintendent's Report

Division Reports

Any other business that might rightly come before the Commission

Adjournment

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please contact Clerk, Abigail Relkin at [awhitmoyer@trumbullvfc.com](mailto:awhitmoyer@trumbullvfc.com)

Parks and Recreation Commission  
July 10, 2023

**Present:** Kevin Bellows - Chairman, Nancy Walsh, Cat Lamy, Mike Travisano, Ed Ritacco  
**Absent:** Brian LeClerc, Jonathan O'Brien

**Also present:** Abigail Relkin - Clerk, Steven Chapman – Chief Park Ranger

**Call to Order:** 7:01 PM

**Public Comment Opened:**

Gloria Manna – Westfield Drive  
Trumbull Republican Town Committee

Comment: The committee submitted permit request a request for pickleball courts and we are curious about processes. We are not permitted to submit a reservation until end of July for August 23<sup>rd</sup> at Island Brook (the social club is scheduled to be at unity) due to scheduling limitations online. The group is 28 players broken down into teams, needing all 6 courts for about 2.5-3 hours (5:30 to 8:30). What is the cost of the courts?

- o Response: Cat Lamy - \$20 an hour per basketball/tennis court, so for pickleball the pricing would likely be similar. Generally cost would be \$360 for all courts for 3 hours, but would depend on the type of group as determined by the Recreation Department.

Kaya and Rhea Patel – Villa Court  
Dream Beyond Limits Fundraiser

Comment: We are looking to use the Old Mine Park Trail on August 27th for a one mile through the trail from 11:00-2:00 to raise awareness and money for amputees. Looking at about 50 people and not everyone would be starting at the same time. This is the first year so we think mainly family members and friends would be joining.

- o Question: Kevin Bellows – How much will people pay to register?  
§ Response: \$6 to join in/participate.
- o Comment/Question: Steven Chapman – We would have to keep an eye on parking, only about 40 spots if we do it at the trail. Logistics need to be worked out an we would want to have at least 1 ranger for gate access, bathrooms open, etc. There are also some areas that are steep or rocky. Might be hard to get emergency personnel up there if there was an issue.
- o Comment: Cat Lamy – Have you thought about going from the beginning of the path to Whitney and turning around? It's mostly flat and paved.  
§ Response: We're willing to adjust for safety.  
§ Comment: Steven Chapman – We might need to put up notifications but we would have trouble preventing people from being there at the same time.

**Motion to add an additional person the the public comment**

Motion made by Ed Ritacco  
Second by Cat Lamy  
Unanimous Vote

- Pat Morkizon – Scattergood Circle

Comment: I'm here to compliment the town and Parks Department on the re-fit of twin brooks park. It is a great space and I think improves on what was already there. The commitment to our natural infrastructure takes thought and patience/money.

- o Comment: Cat Lamy – Heron sculpture is going to be put back up.

**Motion to move into regular meeting**

Motion made by Ed Ritacco

Second by Nancy Walsh

Unanimous Vote

**Acceptance of Minutes – Motion to approve June minutes**

Motion made by Mike Trivisano

Second by Ed Ritacco

Unanimous Vote

**Correspondence**

Dan Viera, LIVFree Softball Tournament

Comment: Kevin Bellows – I've talked with Dan and there has been such an overwhelming response that he needs more fields. He is requesting the high school fields, already approved by Mr King and the schools sports department. LIVFree will pay a la cart for the field use. No further approval needed.

§ Question: Ed Ritacco – Will they be under same restrictions on the high school fields (maintenance wise)? The fields are in better shape and may be able to do more games on the high school fields.

- Response: Kevin Bellows – it should be the same as was determined before the approval. Only the baseball diamonds would be limited

§ Comment: Kevin Bellows – There may be a parking conflict if pickle-ball is happening at the same time. Dan is considering seeing if he could have pickle-ball join in on the fundraiser.

- Response: Steven Chapman - Maybe talk with police about no parking signs along the road so no one is parking on the road way leading up to Unity Park. We could set up a section for the pickle-ball parking to avoid any issues. We can plan for it.

Theater Group

Comment: Kevin Bellows – Group reached out to thank us for listening to the proposal. The fine details will be worked out with Dmitri/Parks.

**Old Business**

Pickle-ball – Questions gathered by Cat Lamy listed with answers from Noreen W (Recreation Department)

Question – Can a non resident purchasing pass can make reservations? *No.*

Question – Is there a waitlist for the club? *As of 7/1, the recreation department is taking all residents off the list and approving their request to join the club.*

Question – When we were originally talking about a club, there was going to be signage with rules and days, what happened with the signs? *Yes, they are planning on them but ironing out details and what they will say.*

Question – Are you finding different members of households making many reservations? *No.*

Question – Can “myrec” do real time reservations? Many have complained that they’ve seen it open, making a reservation, then it’s decline. *No the app cannot do that. It would lead to anyone booking at anytime without limitations.*

Woods Estate

Question: Cat Lamy – Did Genevieve get all of the answers she was looking for?

Response: Kevin Bellows – Yes, she got the answers.

Old Mine and Twin Brooks

Question: Nancy Walsh - Are Old Mine and Twin Brooks open yet?

Response: Cat Lamy - Yes and there’s a dedication this weekend at Twin Brooks.

### New Business

Trumbull Republican Town Committee Pickle-Ball Fundraiser

Comment: Kevin Bellows – No one is currently booked, it would need to be pre-reserved.

- § Response: Cat Lamy – As long as people are aware in advanced, it should be fine. It could be on the website or town alert that there will be an event as so many people do drop ins.

### Motion to allow the Trumbull Republican Town Committee use of the courts at I Island Brook Park on August 23 from 5:30 to 8:30

Motion made by Mike Travisano

Second by Cat Lamy

Unanimous Vote

Dream Beyond Limits Fundraiser

Comment: Nancy Walsh – We never received guidelines from the attorney about fundraisers. We’ve denied someone in the past. I’m wondering what guidelines we will use.

§ Comment: Cat Lamy – we just approved a fundraiser for TRTC and for LIVFree.

§ Response: Ed Ritacco – The past fundraiser was denied because of timeliness as she wanted to hold the event to weeks later.

§ Comment: Kevin Bellows— the attorney wanted to get with the others before coming back. Judging who should and shouldn’t be able to do fundraisers.

· Response: Cat Lamy - I will follow up with the attorney.

§ Comment: Nancy Walsh - As long as we can keep the trail open we should be okay.

· Response: Cat Lamy – There may get more donations if the public is walking by/in the area. Maybe have a Venmo or QR code for anyone who wants to join.

### Motion to allow the Dream Beyond Limits fundraiser to have a 1-mile walk on August 27<sup>th</sup> from 1-2:30 at Rails to Trails.

Motion by Cat Lamy  
Second by Ed Ritacco  
Unanimous Vote

### Superintendent's Report

- Matt sent out a report.

### Division Report

- Ranger Report, Steven Chapman
  - o Question: Kevin Bellows – How has pickle-ball parking been outside the park.
    - § Response: there was an issue with 2 players and the cops were called. This had nothing to do with parking. No one is parking outside of the gate. One was town, one was out of town. Social pickle-ball had started, we were checking a roster but no longer needed to do so after some time
      - Comment: Cat Lamy– I frequent the courts to play tennis and pickle-ball. Most days there are people parked outside of the gates.
  - o Question: Kevin Bellows – how is manpower?
    - § Response: I had 5 that were supposed to come back that didn't. Our full time ranger will start working the night shift (2:00-10:00). It's been tough to get new rangers, the recruiting pool isn't what it's been in the past.
  - o Question: Kevin Bellows – Do you guys go down where people have graffiti?
    - § Response: We can get down there and monitor as often as we can.
  - o Question: Kevin Bellows – Has Quarry Road been a problem?
    - § Response: Occasional incidents but the hangouts and issues are not like they used to be. Fencing does help to prevent people and the water level isn't as high as it used to be.
  - o Question: Kevin Bellows – How's the Bill property?
    - § Response: It's an old house and has it's challenges but it's going well. Hoping to get AC in there in the future. Nice location for wildlife.
- Noreen sent out her report.

### **Any other business that might come before the commission**

None Presented

### **Motion to Adjourn**

Motion made by Nancy Walsh  
Second by Cat Lamy  
Unanimous Vote

Meeting Adjourned: 8:03 PM

# RECREATION REPORT

August 2023

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Registration is beginning on/around September 1<sup>st</sup> for Basketball and other fall activities. We are finalizing plans and will be posting a brochure soon.

Summer is wrapping up! In May-July we saw over 23,400 visitors to the pools. Approximately 360 of those patrons were visitors who utilized guest passes. End of season pool hours are as follows:

## Beach Memorial Pool:

### August 12 - August 20

- Monday: 10am-6pm
- Tuesday: 10am-8pm
- Wednesday: 10am-6pm (Adaptive Swim 6pm-8pm)
- Thursday: 10am-8pm
- Friday: 10am-6pm
- Saturday: 10am-6pm
- Sunday: 10am-6pm

### August 21- August 27

- 10am-6pm

### August 28 - September 1

- 3pm-6pm
- ### September 2 - September 4
- 10am-6pm

## Tashua Pool:

### August 12- August 20

- Monday: 12pm-6pm
- Tuesday: 12pm-6pm
- Wednesday: 12pm-8pm
- Thursday: 12pm-6pm
- Friday: 12pm-6pm
- Saturday: 12pm-6pm
- Sunday: 12pm-6pm

Social Play pickleball currently has over 220 participants. Additionally, with the expansion of Tashua Knolls Courts, we are averaging over 90 resident permits per week.

## **Other:**

### Summer Concert Series

- Children's Concerts Tuesday 10am @ Recreation Lawn (through August 15)
- Tuesday Evening Concerts 7pm @ Town Hall Green (through September 12)
- Sunday 4pm @ Town Hall Green (through August 13)

### Annual Arts Festival

- Saturday September 30 from 10am-4pm @ Town Hall Green

*Please note, the Trumbull Parks and Recreation Office will be closed Monday September 4,*

## Parks and Recreation Superintendent Report July-August 2023

We have been receiving much more rain than last year at this time which has led to explosive weed and turfgrass growth throughout town. Daily, Parks crews continue to weed, water and mow park, town and park facilities plantings and lawns. Also, our staff conduct daily maintenance of both town pools and water parks. Specific work and events during the past month include:

- Poison ivy mitigation.
- Paint over graffiti on infrastructure in the south end of the rails-to-trails system.
- Continuous weeding and care of the Vietnam War Memorial White Plains Road to ensure the newly-designed planting can thrive.
- Grading and seeding work around the newly constructed tennis and pickleball courts at Tashua Knolls.
- Identifying and eliminating/cautioning of stinging insect nests.
- Removal of storm damaged or declining trees in Unity Park.





Town of Trumbull  
Parks and Recreation  
*Ranger Division*

**Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Ranger Division July 2023 Report**

Commissioners,

This report is a summary of the Ranger Division activities for the July 2023. This month being the midway point of the summer, activities were in full stride. There were several days of stormy weather, which is typical this time of year, and there was a stretch of hot/humid days, but that didn't detract from the parks being busy. Rangers responded, observed and took 37 reports in July. There were two cases of dogs off leash observed, one on Rails 2 Trails and the other at Unity. In both cases the owners cooperated. There were two incidents involving motor vehicles, one at Beaches Pool where a car was keyed and the other at Unity where a car rolled over in the waterway. There was damage to town property at Unity where the Bayberry gate post was damaged and at the Island Brook tennis court where there was damage to an area of the court surface. Rangers assisted TPD with an altercation at Tashua Pool, an injury on Rails 2 Trails Sping Hill Section, and a suspicious vehicle at Twin Brooks. In addition, rangers found several church pews set up at Madison field. Rangers continue to patrol and report hazards and assist with parking control at the Tuesday morning children concerts.

There were 76 parking violations issued, 16 written parking warnings and 2 written infractions

Parking Violations by park		Written Parking Warnings
Twin Brooks	48	04
Old Mine	03	01
Indian Ledge	05	02
Island Brook	01	00
Unity	00	00
Beach	17	08
Nothnagle	00	00
Tashua Knolls	02	01
Rails to Trails	00	00

There were 11 permitted events in July which included family reunions, picnics and birthdays parties. Seven were at the Unity Pavillion and Four and the Old Mine lower pavillion.

The Ranger Division welcomed New part time Ranger Taylor Marino. She has started training and will be on regular shift starting in early August.

Respectfully Submitted  
Steven Chapman  
Chief Park Ranger

Hey Kevin,

I am a Trumbull resident and in order to support Veterans, I am planning to organize a 5k walkathon with few of my colleagues. I was wondering if I need to take any permit to conduct this. Do you have any suggestions for a suitable location?

Regards

**Ajit Puthiyavettle**

AWS Solution Architecture

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July 17, 2023

First Selectman's Office  
5866 Main Street  
Trumbull, CT 06611

Dear First Selectman Tesoro,

It is with mixed feelings that I must resign my position as Commissioner, Parks & Recreation immediately. Due to family and work needs, I find it difficult to balance all that is needed from me. The past 7 years have been rewarding and I feel as if I was able to make a difference for the town, however small it may have been. It was a privilege to work with your office, my fellow Commissioners and the residence of our great town.

Thank you for the opportunity.

Best,



Brian D. LeClerc

RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
VOLUME \_\_\_\_\_ PAGE \_\_\_\_\_  
2023 JUL 21 P 08  
TRUMBULL LAND RECORDS  
ATTEST  
TOWN CLERK

Good afternoon,

**BMX** would like to be added to the agenda for an overnight event in September at Indian Ledge Park (with campers).

Thank you,

Noreen Wilpiseski

Recreation Program Manager

(203)452-5008

Good morning Kevin,

My name is Michael Murray, longtime Trumbull resident.

I would like to be placed on the Parks agenda for the August 14th meeting to talk about how we can improve the Community garden in Abraham Nichols Park to make it a better place.. I may be bringing a special guest to speak and support our efforts from the Westport Community Garden. Also I do believe other residents who are in the community garden will be attending and may speak or just attend to show support.

I hope you allow me an opportunity to speak as well as others who may choose to speak on the community garden.

Michael Murray.

Chairman Bellows and Clerk Relkin,

I hope you are doing well. If possible, I request that myself, Ethan Wicko and Alex McLeod would be admitted to make public comment at the August 14th Parks and Rec Commission meeting.

We are looking to run an event at Indian Ledge Park on the weekend of October 14th and would love to have the chance to discuss the opportunity with the committee. We were originally planning on speaking at the meeting this coming Monday, but had availability issues.

Please let us know if there is anything additional we can do in the meantime.

Thank you,  
Zachary Wisniefsky  
Chief Financial Officer, Transcend Bicycle