

MEETING MINUTES  
Trumbull Parks and Recreation Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, August 9, 2021

In attendance:

Kevin Bellows, Chairman  
Mike Travisano, Vice Chairman  
Bill Brown  
Brian LeClerc  
Ken Martin  
Ed Ritacco

Also in attendance:

Dmitri Paris, Superintendent of Parks  
Kathleen McGannon, Chief Administrative Officer

Not in attendance:

Jon O'Brien  
Nancy Walsh

Guests:

Rick Lapin, 93 Autumn Ridge Road

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Mr. Bellows suspended the regular meeting to allow for public comment.

Mr. Lapin appeared before the Commission on behalf of Trumbull Men's Senior Baseball. He expressed his concern that under the field use policy, the league is being priced out of using town fields for their games. The league plays approximately nine games on home fields, not including potential playoff games. The Commission suggested the league look into obtaining non-profit status, as well as increasing the percentage of residents that play on the team. Mr. Lapin agreed and further discussion will be had with the Parks and Recreation department regarding the league's status and use of the fields.

MOTION to close public comment made by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Ritacco. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

MOTION to accept July meeting minutes made by Mr. Travisano, seconded by Mr. LeClerc. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

In regard to the letter from Mr. Selski about Gunther Pond Park, Mr. Paris responded that his departments' staffing has altered the regular maintenance cycle, with priority going to municipal buildings and larger areas, however, his staff has been able to remedy some of the issues brought to the

Commission by Mr. Selski. Concerning the dredging project that has been delayed, Mr. Paris explained that the delay was due to permitting with DEEP, and now the town will be seeking a contractor to complete the work.

Regarding Mr. Sunil's Eagle Project proposal for a COVID-19 memorial, the Commission would like more details including location and design. The Commission would like Mr. Sunil to attend the next meeting to address their questions and provide more information.

MOTION to table discussion of Eagle Project proposal made by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Travisano. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

The Commission next addressed the permit application from Alex's Lemonade Stand to hold their charity kickball tournament on September 18, 2021, at Indian Ledge Park. The organization has held the event in previous years with no issues.

MOTION to approve Alex's Lemonade Stand Charity Kickball Tournament on September 18, 2021, at Indian Ledge Park made by Mr. Travisano, seconded by Mr. Ritacco. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

Mr. Martin inquired about a newly installed monument near Starbucks on White Plains Road. Mrs. McGannon replied that it was placed there to mark the site of the Brinsmaid Crossing of the historic Housatonic Railroad.

Mr. Paris updated the commission on the progress of the Hillcrest pool investigation. He said that the first round of professional contractors will examine the area this week and generate recommendations on how to proceed.

He also noted that he and Ms. Wilpizeski are developing operational policies for use of the new pickleball courts, as residents are eager to begin using them once they are complete.

Commissioners asked for an update on Island Brook Park. The Park Rangers have increased their presence in the park, issuing tickets to nonresidents. Part of the issue is that at times, if players are asked to leave, they do so on foot and then return to the park and resume play. Mr. Paris noted that he has received feedback from residents acknowledging the department's efforts and has not received further complaints to date.

Mr. Martin asked if it would be possible to convert the basketball court at Island Brook into additional pickleball courts, as there are courts at Unity Park, Tashua Knolls, and other locations throughout town. Mr. Paris offered to look into the logistics and costs associated with the idea.

MOTION to request that Mr. Paris investigate the feasibility of converting the Island Brook basketball court into additional pickleball courts made by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Ritacco. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

Mr. Ritacco asked where the Trumbull High Swim Team will practice now that Hillcrest pool is closed. The Athletic Director has not update Mr. Paris yet, but the Westport YMCA is one possibility.

Mrs. McGannon noted that the Aquatics Facilities Building Committee meetings were suspended during the pandemic shutdown. The chair of the committee has contacted the members to see who is willing to stay on and meetings should resume soon.

Mr. Paris read the Park Ranger report into the record (attached).

Mr. Martin complimented Mr. Paris and his department on the recent improvements along White Plains Road in the area of Twin Brooks Park and the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial. Commissioners agreed that the space looks wonderful.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Submitted by Laura Shiel



**Town of Trumbull  
Parks and Recreation  
*Ranger Division***

**Parks and Recreation Commission  
Ranger Division July 2021 Report**

Commissioners,

This report is a summary of the Ranger Division activities for the month of July 2021. In July the Summer season continued to be very active with Baseball Tournaments, camps, events and trail usage.

Rangers responded and took 71 written reports for Littering, Injury on Town Property, Damage to Town Property, Alcohol, Conduct and Behavior and Pets and Animals. 14 written warnings that were issued for a variety of Rules and incidents such as prohibited parking, dogs off leash, conduct and behavior, Damage to Park Property, littering, and dumping. There were 116 parking violations issued and 20 written parking warnings.

Rangers provided a strong presence in Island Brook Park due to complaints and addressed issues as they were observed. 26 parking sticker violations were issued.

There was an increase of activity and litter at Quarry Rd at the beginning and middle of the month. Patrols were increased. Rangers spoke to several groups regarding swimming and litter and issues seemed to subside some at the end of the month. Some conversations were a challenge due to a language barrier. The Ranger Division gives thanks to Ranger Freer who has been monumental in closing that barrier in being an interpreter.

There were 9 permitted events in the parks which included Anniversary partys, wedding, Family gatherings and picnics.

There was one major event, the Annual Sunset Run in Twin Brooks Park. Rangers assisted by parking over 200 vehicles and were detailed at the Brock Street and Franklin Steet gates.

Respectfully Submitted  
Steven Chapman  
Chief Park Ranger