

**TOWN OF SALEM
RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2019 – 7:00 P.M.
SALEM TOWN HALL – CONFERENCE ROOM 1**

PRESENT

Teri Natoli, Chairperson
Robert Appleby
Jessica Fletcher
Crispin Fresco-Hawes
Alan Maziarz

ABSENT

Arthur Bergman

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Natoli called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Adjustments to the Agenda

The following item was added to the Agenda:

Item 4 Approval of the Special Meeting Minutes of June 17, 2019

The subsequent items will be numbered accordingly.

3. Public Comment

First Selectman Lyden introduced Mary Durkee, who formerly ran the Basketball program, and Mary Jean Blezard — both of whom may be interested in joining the Recreation Commission.

5. Approval of the Special Meeting Minutes of June 17, 2019

M/S/C: Maziarz/Appleby, to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of August 22, 2019.

Discussion: None. Voice vote, 5-0, all in favor.

6. Chairman's Report

Chairperson Natoli discussed the following items:

a. Budget

Chairperson Natoli suggested the possibility of adjusting the Commission's budget based upon their past trends. The allocation of the following funds from their FY2018/19 budget were approved at their last meeting:

Repair of the Tennis/Basketball Courts	\$7,300.00
Shawn Callaghan as the Consultant for the Disc Golf Project	\$2,500.00

The repair of the tennis/basketball courts, which were resurfaced approximately two years prior, is scheduled for the end of August. A brief overview of the financial process was provided.

b. Port-a Potties

A groundhog is currently residing under one of the port-a-potties located at the Round Hill Road fields. Currently, the port-a-potties are located near the playscape and the softball field. The Commission proposed moving the latter port-a-potty, making it more accessible to the Babe Ruth and soccer fields. The possibility of changing septic companies is also being considered due the lack of consistent maintenance. The cost of the port-a-potty rentals was briefly discussed.

c. Salem Town Green Holiday Tree

Chairperson Natoli reported that she has contacted Burnett's Country Gardens and Burnett's Landscaping, who have agreed to sell and plant the holiday tree for \$1,100.00. The tree will be planted during the Fall and will be located in the same vicinity but closer to the front.

d. Program Offerings, including Facility Rentals, Basketball, Baseball, and Soccer Programs

The Town's website is currently being re-designed and a temporary, transitional website has been posted. While the Commission supports the basketball, baseball, and soccer programs by providing some funding, it is not the governing body. Each of the programs have their own Board who assess the program's overall direction. A brief discussion regarding a recent meeting concerning the soccer program and the appointment of officers was held. Because the Commission is providing some funding to the programs, the possibility of requiring that they be kept informed and the programs maintain their transparency was suggested. The receipt of each of the programs schedules was also briefly discussed.

e. September Programs

Chairperson Natoli proposed the possibility of organizing back to school programs and fitness and wellness programs for the month of September.

f. October Programs

Trick or Trunk – Commissioner Fletcher reported that Deborah Cadwell of Witchmeadow Campground has, again, agreed to host this year's Trick or Trunk event. They are planning to have more snacks and games and continue to involve student volunteers.

Medallions – Kim and Barry Ford of *The Red House* have agreed to continue producing the medallions. The Salem Land Trust is discussing the possibility of making Riverside Trail ADA-accessible and will be a nice addition to the list of possible trails to hide future medallions.

g. December Programs

Bicentennial Finale & Tree Lighting – Planning for the event should begin in November. Freddie Marion has agreed to perform again at this year's Tree Lighting and the Girl Scouts will be providing homemade cookies. The Salem Volunteer Fire Company will be contacted regarding the possibility of having one of the firefighters play Santa Claus this year. The event will be held on December 14, following the Salem Free Public Library's Anniversary Celebration.

Meeting Calendar – The following year’s Recreation Committee Regular Meetings are approved by the Commission each December.

7. Old Business

Disc Golf Consultant Shawn Callaghan conducted a walkthrough of the proposed disc golf trail behind the Pavilion with a colleague. They took measurements and discussed the possible layout of the course.

The final draft of the map to the Salem Multi-Purpose Trail was reviewed and briefly discussed. The property lines were eliminated and the distances were added to the map.

8. New Business

The Interim Recreation Coordinator reported that an e-mail was received from Ryan Waterman regarding his interest in starting an adult flag football league in Salem this Spring. He was invited to the meeting this evening, but was unable to attend. A successful Basic Dog Obedience Class was held and the next class, which will have a Halloween theme, is in the process of being scheduled. The summer LEGO programs were cancelled due to lack of registrations. A representative from the AARP has been contacted regarding the hosting of a Senior Driver Safety Training Course. A vintage baseball game will be held on Heritage Day at the Round Hill Road field and Hayrides, possibly providing rides to all of the activities and events being held during the day, will be offered. The possibility of providing other activities, promoting the Recreation Commission’s upcoming activities and offerings, such as disc golf, pickleball, and the like, was discussed. Equipment for such activities as cornhole and horseshoes to be held at the Town Green and the fields at Round Hill Road was requested. Heritage Day will be held on September 14 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

9. Election of Officers

Chairperson Natoli announced that while she is stepping down as the Chairperson of the Commission, she will continue to serve on the Commission. She also recommended that the Commission elect a Vice Chairperson.

M/S/C: Fletcher/Appleby, to nominate and appoint Commissioner Maziarz as Chairman of the Recreation Commission. Discussion: Commissioner Maziarz accepted the nomination. Voice vote, 5-0, all in favor.

The nomination and election of a Vice Chairperson will be held at their next meeting.

10. Adjournment

M/S/C: Maziarz/Fletcher, to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 5-0, all in favor.