

**TOWN OF SALEM
RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 2021 – 6:30 P.M.
SALEM COMMUNITY PARK PAVILION**

PRESENT

Alan Maziarz, Chairperson
Art Bergman (6:44 p.m.)
Mary Durkee
Mary Jean Blezard
Teri Natoli

ABSENT

Jessica Fletcher
Crispin Fresco-Hawes

1. Call to Order

Chairman Maziarz called the meeting to order at 6:43 p.m.

2. Act on a Motion to Approve the Minutes of July 19, 2021

M/S/C: Blezard/Durkee, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 19, 2021.

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

3. Adjustments to the Agenda

The following item was added to the agenda, under New Business:

9(a) Salem Youth Baseball League (SYBL)

4. Public Comment/Guests/Correspondence – none

5. Report on the Budget: Alan Maziarz

Chairman Maziarz reported that approximately 4.4% of the FY202122 budget has been expended. \$6,000.00 has been provided to the Salem Youth Baseball League (SYBL) with a recommendation/suggestion to allocate the bulk of the funds for the purchase and installation of a new scoreboard.

6. Recreation Program Coordinator's Report: Agnes Miyuki

Six (6) individuals have registered for tomorrow evening's free Meditation...Chi Kung...Tai Chi Chuan class. The class will be held from 6:00 to 7:15 p.m. at the Salem Community Park Pavilion.

Vanta Leagues, a youth e-sports program for kids ages 9 to 14, will be hosting a free summer camp from August 23 to 27, which, hopefully, will generate interest for the Fall League. *League of Legends*, *Rocket League*, and *Valorant* will be offered for the free

Summer session. The Fall season will run from September 20 to November 20 and will cost \$120.00.

The Minds in Motion Chemical Creations and CSI (Crime Scene Investigation) Camps, which were held the first week of August, grew from seven (7) to eleven (11) registrations. Two tarps were temporarily installed on either side of the Pavilion to help minimize the wind from disrupting the camp.

The AARP Safe Driving Class will not resume until October 2022 due to the ongoing pandemic.

The Connecticut Recreation & Parks Association, Inc. will be hosting their 61st Annual Conference & Tradeshow on November 22 and 23 at the Mohegan Sun Convention Center. The promotional brochure was circulated for any Commissioners who might be interested in attending.

7. Public Works Report: Don Bourdeau – *not present; no update*

Chairman Maziarz reported that he met and spoke with the new Public Works Foreman/Supervisor, Tony Gallicchio, regarding the Round Hill Road fields. A meeting will be held with him and Disc Golf Consultant Shawn Callaghan to discuss the disc golf course needs.

8. Unfinished Business

a. New Commission Member(s) – Welcome Amanda Lawrence

Amanda Lawrence, a very active member of the community, was welcomed and introduced to the Commission; the Commissioners look forward to her input.

b. Dog Park – Committee Update

First Selectman Lyden has requested a meeting with Debra Delorimiere, who has taken the lead for the Dog Park Committee, to discuss the process and answer any questions she might have. A directive has been received that a member of the Recreation Commission attends the Dog Park Committee meetings to provide guidance and possible input. Chairman Maziarz attended the Committee's initial meeting during which a variety of items were discussed, including possible locations, maintenance, access, dealing with dog behaviors, and the like. Commissioner Natoli will be contacted regarding her possible interest in serving on the Committee.

c. Fall Concert Planning – Spread the Word

The signage, flyers, and banners were distributed to the Commissioners for placement at key areas in the town. The plot plan has been slightly adjusted to accommodate the additional handicapped parking spaces. The Fire Police have agreed to direct the parking for the event. The Salem Volunteer Fire Company will have a Fire Apparatus at the event and the Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company, Lions Club, and Recreation

Commission will host a table. SYBL President David Donat will be contacted regarding their possible interest in hosting a table. Additional porta-potties and trash bins will also be placed. Advertising the event on the local radio stations and contacting Cumulus Media was suggested. It was noted that the F&Blues band also has a following and promotes their events.

d. Ice Rink/Volleyball 2021 – Location & Install

The final location of the ice rink/volleyball courts is to be determined.

e. Trail Kiosks – Style Decision

Chairman Maziarz is expecting to receive contact information from a former employee of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) whom he met following the Dog Park Committee meeting and informed him of the availability of trail kiosks. The trail kiosk that aesthetically coincides with the disc golf signage for the Pavilion will be discussed in the near future.

f. Disc Golf Update – In Full Swing

Chairman Maziarz reported that receipts have been received and the construction and placement of the bridges and tee boxes have begun. He will request that an update be sent to the volunteers informing them of the status of the project.

g. Salem Field Visit – September Site

The next meeting will be held on Monday, September 20, at 6:30 p.m. at the Pavilion.

h. Forsyth Volunteer Pavilion – Builder(s)

Commissioner Lawrence proposed the possibility of hosting a Kickball League for adults at, possibly, Forsyth Road/Volunteer Park with, possibly, the Town of Colchester. A survey will be distributed via Facebook to gauge the public's interest.

i. Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) – Submission Update

Chairman Maziarz has been working with the Planning & Zoning Commission on the POCD submission. Additional items that were included in the document are a swimming pool and senior center.

j. Salem Footprints – Hidden Update

Commissioner Natoli has distributed medallions on the Alf and Sylvia Bingham Preserve.

k. Pickleball – Line Painting Redo

The pickleball lines have been painted on the tennis courts. Unfortunately, they were painted in the wrong direction. The company has been contacted and the lines will be remedied in the near future.

Cindy Affinati, who attended one of their previous meetings, has returned to her other residence for the season. It is hoped that she will continue her interest in offering pickleball lessons.

1. Star Gazing – Update

An e-mail was received from one of the individuals who host the Lyme Land Trust's Star Gazing events. Due to time constraints, they would not be available to host an event(s) in Salem, but invited a Commissioner(s) to join their sessions and design a program for the town.

8. New Business

a. Salem Youth Baseball League (SYBL)

Salem Youth Baseball has opened its softball/baseball registrations. Chairman Maziarz reported that the League will be joining with the Town of Colchester for the Summer/Fall season. The Town of Bozrah is no longer affiliated with SYBL.

10. Adjournment

**M/S/C: Bergman/Durkee, to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m. Discussion: None.
Voice vote, 5-0. Meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

Agnes T. Miyuki, Recording Secretary for the Town of Salem