

**Preston Parks & Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 25, 2022
Teleconference Call
7:30 pm**

Call to Order/Roll

Vice Chairman Dan Coley called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm

Members present: Dan Coley, Mikel Brockway, Gary Deveau, Katie Iozzia, Rachel Tucker, Tom Wilbur

Members excused:

Members absent: Kim Demara

Alternates present: Roberta Charpentier

Also present: Amy Brosnan, Director, Miranda Fabre, Assistant, Roberta Charpentier, recorder

Remembrance & Recognition of Tom Turner

Dan Coley stated that he would like to start with a remembrance of Tom.. I think we were all taken back by what has happened. It is the tragic loss of a great guy, a family guy, who volunteered everywhere he could and I don't have the words to describe the loss to the community and his family.

Mikel Brockway stated we all know how important soccer was to Tom. I think we should organize a memorial soccer game at Preston Park in honor of Tom.

Rachel Tucker stated I think that's a great idea and maybe we could make it a fundraiser. Jerry Grabarek talked about starting a scholarship in Tom's name.

Amy Brosnan explained that Jerry Grabarek wants to start 2 (boy and girl) scholarships for 8th graders. Amy noted that Tom was also the driving force behind getting the playground built. Attending quite a few BoS meetings to secure the funding. He recruited a lot of volunteers to help build it. He was a great liaison between the Board of Education and Parks & Recreation. He pushed to have Summer Camp happen again at the school to try and bring back some normalcy to parents and kids, because it had been over a year that the Town had any programs inside the school. He will be missed by this Commission, the Community and most of all, his family.

Public Comment

None

Meeting Minutes

November 23, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by M. Brockway and seconded by G. Deveau to accept the November 23, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

All in favor. Motion carries.

Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by G. Deveau and seconded by R. Tucker to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.

All in favor. Motion carries.

Correspondence Received/Sent Out

1. Letter to BoS requesting they appoint Tom Wilber as a Regular Member.
2. Letter received from BoS indicating Tom Wilbur was appointed as a Regular Member.
3. Budget request letter received from 1st Selectwoman

Unfinished Business

Office Assistant ~ Introduction of Miranda Fabre

Miranda Fabre stated she has planned programs for Colleges in the past and is excited to do it on a Community level.

Park Maintenance and Development

General maintenance updates

D. Coley stated complaints have been received on the looks of the pond, but because the water is low the geese have not been present.

M. Brockway noted that there were very few geese during baseball season.

M. Brockway suggested making an ice skating rink.

T. Wilbur stated Voluntown does an ice rink. The fire department fills it and at the end of the season they just roll it up and it's reusable each year.

Capital Projects Update

A. Brosnan noted that it will be a year before the Capital Projects get voted on.

Finance/Fundraising

Budget: 2021-2022

A. Brosnan noted it will be handled the same way as last year, the salaries will be handled centrally, and keep the budget flat.

Budget discussion took place

It was decided to get a cost on a mower and hold a budget meeting on Thursday the 27th.

Membership & Elections

Open positions

(1) Regular Member & (1) Alternate Member

A motion was made by M. Brockway and seconded by G. Deveau to recommend the BoS appoint Danielle Wilcox as a Regular Member, with a term to be designated by the Town Clerk.

All in favor. Motion carries.

Programs & Activities Update

A. Brosnan:

- Christmas craft class before the school stopped after school activities

- Planning Senior bus trips for March and April
- Chair Yoga Class – virtual and in person
- Working on Summer Camps

Youth Basketball

A. Brosnan:

- practice has been going on for 2 weeks
- 1st and 2nd grade has 3 teams
- 3rd and 4th grade 4 teams
- 5th and 6th grade has 3 teams
- 7th and 8th grade team

Community Events

A. Brosnan:

Tour of Lights

- 50 spots on map to vote on

Santa & Sirens

- Tanker Truck, Rescue Truck, Grinch Mobile

Preston Little League Update

M. Brockway:

- Registration is up to 94
- Planning Opening Day - Ken Daniewicz will be President again
- Score Board will be done in the Spring

New/Additional Business

Pavilion & Field Use Fee

A motion was made by T. Wilbur and seconded by M. Brockway to accept the Preston Parks & recreation Director's recommendation for a fee schedule for the Park's Pavilion.

All in favor. Motion carries.

Preston residents: \$75 ½ day, \$100 all day, \$100 security deposit

Non-residents: \$150 ½ day, \$250 all day, \$200 deposit

Field Use Fee was Tabled

Public Comment

None

P&R
January 25, 2022
Regular Meeting

Adjournment

A motion was made by G. Deveau and seconded by M. Brockway to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 pm.

All in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

RT Charpentier

Roberta Charpentier