East Haddam Recreation Commission
Special Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2020

Attending: D. Carbo; M. Davis; C. Grillo; P. Laffan; M. Larson
Absent: S. Blanchard; C. Miner; T. Pisciotti; M. Roberts
Guests: L. Conroy; T. Goodie; F. Tremblay

Mr. Davis called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

The Commissioners reviewed the minutes of the June 8, 2020 meeting.

MOTION MADE BY MR. GRILLO, SECONDED BY MR. LAFFAN, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 8, 2020 MEETING AS WRITTEN. UNANIMOUS AYE.

Committee Reports

- **Disc Golf** – Mr. Laffan reported that everyone had fun at the disc golf tournament and it raised a little bit of money for the program. He also reported that the course has been cleared of all fallen trees/limbs from storm Isaias and a new lost and found box has been installed

  Director Conroy reported that the disc golf program that Mr. Laffan put together for the Town's summer camp was well received by the campers.

- **Music on the River (MOR)** - Ms. Conroy reported that Christine Ohlman will perform the first Music on the River concert for 2021. She reiterated that the Committee is still considering doing seven concerts next year.

- **Adult Softball** – Ms. Larson reported that the program had six committed teams, however, after several unsuccessful attempts to schedule playing fields and with COVID and concerns of EEE, participants agreed to cancel all games for the season and reconvene next summer.

Director's Report

a. Summer Programs Review

Ms. Conroy reported that, although it was a challenge to comply with all of the state's guidelines for summer camp, it had been very successful. She stated that the staff, campers and parents all contributed to making it a great experience. She added that, although she was not able to schedule any field trips this summer, the campers really enjoyed fishing at the Town Beach and the visits to Cave Hill Resort sponsored by Youth & Family Services.

Director Conroy advised that other virtual and in-person programs offered this summer included adult yoga, bootcamp, guitar lessons, Skyhawks basketball stem camp, a running club for 6 to 8-year olds, and 16+ pick-up soccer were. She stated that all of the programs were well received.

b. Fall Programs - Ms. Conroy reported that the following programs will be offered this fall:

- Adult Yoga via Facebook Live
- Bootcamp will be extended to 9th grade and older
- UK International will run a soccer program for ages 4 to 7
- Skyhawks will run a track & field program for ages 5 to 12th

She advised that other fall programs she is working on include When I'm in Charge classes, Babysitting classes, and possibly Pickleball.

She responded to several questions from the Commissioners and there was a general discussion regarding the renovations to the tennis courts. Ms. Conroy stated that she gets a lot of questions about the status of the tennis courts and it is one of her top priorities.

At Ms. Conroy's request, Mr. Davis agreed to set-up some dates for CPR classes. Ms. Conroy also requested a volunteer to research and organize a creative/flexible soccer program for ages 8 years and older. In response to a question from Mr. Grillo, Ms. Conroy confirmed that the Rec Department will be teaming up with the Soccer Club on the program for ages 8+. There was a general discussion regarding several approaches to organizing the program.

Director Conroy stated that although kids have been organizing their own pick-up basketball games, she has not yet been able to come up with a Rec program that complies with social distancing guidelines.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed at the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

a. New Recreation Commission Member Nominations – Ms. Conroy advised that the terms of several Commission members had expired. Mr. Grillo, Mr. Davis, Mr. Laffan, Ms. Piscotti, and Mr. Carbo all agreed to stay on the Recreation Commission for another term.

MOTION MADE BY MR. DAVIS, SECONDED BY MR. LAFFAN, TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN THE REAPPOINTMENTS OF CHICK GRILLIO FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 7/1/2023, MICHAEL DAVIS FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 7/1/2022, PATRICK LAFFAN FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 7/1/2022, TINA PISCIOTTI FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 7/1/2023, AND DANIEL CARBO FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 7/1/2022. UNANIMOUS AYE.

Ms. Conroy also advised that Chris Miner and Steve Blanchard had submitted their resignations.

MOTION MADE BY MR. DAVIS, SECONDED BY MS. LARSON, TO SUBMIT TO THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN, WITH REGRET, THE RESIGNATIONS OF STEVEN BLANCHARD AND CHRISTOPHER MINER. UNANIMOUS AYE.

Director Conroy introduced Travis Goodie and Fern Tremblay and stated that both have been involved in a number of Recreation programs and have expressed interest in joining the Recreation Commission.

MOTION MADE BY MR. DAVIS, SECONDED BY MR. CARBO, TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN THE APPOINTMENTS OF TRAVIS GOODE AND FERNAND TREMBLAY TO THE RECREATION COMMISSION. UNANIMOUS AYE.

There was a general discussion concerning how to safely schedule indoor sports and Ms. Conroy advised that she has been working with the CT Park & Recreation Association which provides guidelines for various programs, both indoor and out-of-doors.

Adjournment

THERE BEING NO ADDITIONAL BUSINESS TO DISCUSS, MR. GRILLO MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. LAFFAN TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. UNANIMOUS AYE.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Sharon R. Wheeler
Recording Secretary