

Yorktown Recreation Commission
Thursday, April 3rd 2025
Town Hall Board Room

Commissioners Present: Chairperson Matt Talbert, Vice Chairperson John Campobasso, Commissioner Patrick Cumiskey, Commissioner Joe Falcone, Commissioner Thomas Dunn, Alternate Commissioner Antonio Galvao

Also Present: Town Board Liaison Luciana Haughwout, James Martorano Jr, Superintendent of Recreation, Marissa Lieto, Assistant Superintendent of Recreation, Susan Siegel, Councilwoman

Absent: Commissioner Diego Jaramillo, Commissioner Christine Dunn

Chairperson Talbert calls the meeting to Order at 7:00PM.

There are currently no minutes ready for approval.

Public Comment:

- Lynn Briggs, Event Organizer for the Rochambeau Festival May 17th – 18th speaks about the upcoming festival. They would like with permission of the Town to hang a banner advertising the event on the side of the 202 Ballfield. Superintendent Martorano would like some checks and balances in place before allowing banners to be hung. Town Board Liaison Luciana Haughwout recommends speaking with the Town Attorney and having a Hold Harmless Agreement in place prior to allowing the sign to be hung. All agree there is no issue with this.

Granite Knolls Sensory Garden:

- Superintendent James Martorano Jr. discusses the project at Granite Knolls. PE Joe Riina was hired to do the Engineering Plans at a meeting with Town Clerk, Diana Quast, Supervisor Ed Lachterman last week. They will be starting with the splash pad, but that could be changed at no charge if the splash pad is not approved.
- Councilwoman Haughwout adds that there is a Resolution from 2021 stating that we agree that there could be potential of a Sensory Garden and they added the Splashpad based on the Landscape Architect Plans that were done. A PowerPoint was created by Councilwoman Haughwout displaying three phases of spending the \$50,000.00 Grant money for the project. It was sent to all committee members. Councilwoman Haughwout explains that nobody is against the project, possibly against the process and what's in it and we cannot say yes to a project that is unknown.
- Chair Matt Talbert states the Resolution from 12/28/2021 states specifically to complete the playground phase one, fencing, planters and phase two Sensory Garden. There was discussion of a putting green area that was denied. Diana Quast presented to the Commission that the project was going to be 4,000 square feet and that is what the Commission made a motion on and now it is designs for 10,600 square feet.
- Commissioner Pat Cumiskey states that we authorized design and there can be designs ten different ways, but nothing will be built until the Commission approves a plan.

- Councilwoman Haughwout questions how you could have a design without knowing how much you have to spend.
- Chair Matt Talbert states that Superintendent Martorano got approval to plant trees at Granite Knolls funded by the Tree Bank.

Superintendents Report:

- Senior Programs are all full.
- We took on more programs from Swim Instructor Beth Kear. Teaching all ages all skills, this is a huge service to our residents.
- Pickleball Court will be ready by mid-April. We will be on schedule.
- Camp registration is already full and we are actively pulling children off the waitlist as we hire Counselors. Yorktown Full Day and Extended Day will be at Brookside School. Lakeland Full Day Camp will be at Thomas Jefferson and Travel will be at George Washington and Half Day will be at a new location, St. Patrick's School. This is a more appropriate price and place for our camp.
- Blackberry Woods is in the process of getting the financials in order. They are 4 to 6 weeks out for a purchase order so it is anticipated to be installed by June.
- Lifeguards are being hired and James Torre is doing great. We are opening Jr Lake later than usual and Shrub Oak earlier. We have 240 days to complete the pool project.
- Waitlists for Camp is 70 children on Yorktown and estimate of 30 on Lakeland. We need a Registered Nurse for Camp.
- Arbor Day 4/25/25 at Town Hall.

Al French YYSC Update:

- YYSC purchased Turf Tank to do lines for fields. Training to come.
- Matt Talbert asks if the benches can be moved back where they came from when they are done.
- April 26 APAR Opening Day.

Pickleball:

- May 14th classes will start.

New Business:

- Vice Chair John Campobasso asks how we can keep the Basketball Court at Railroad cleaner.
- Seeds at Granite Knolls need upkeep as well at the batter's box and mound.
- Par 3 have plans from PE Joe Riina and they were in front of the Planning Board last week for sewer. They would like an extension on their lease. They still owe the Town 36,000.00 in utilities which they are currently paying off. As of March, first we transferred all utilities into their name. They should be paid up to date by June.
- Tom Dunn discusses Fam Jam on May 10th 12Noon to 8:00PM.

Old Business:

- Egg Hunt April 4th
- Field Naming and Marching April 4th

- Superintendent Martorano discusses a Grant to make 202 fields more ADA accessible. Handicap only parking as well as drainage and new walkway. May 5th deadline for paperwork to file for grant.
- Commissioner Patrick Cumiskey questions if there are any grants available for Rockhill Park? Superintendent Martorano likes the idea but does not feel like it's a priority right now.
- Commissioner Patrick Cumiskey questions has the capital improvement plan been presented to the Town Board at a public meeting. Superintendent Martorano replies that the process is that it goes to the Planning Board first to get on the Capital Improvement list and then the Town Board reviews the list. It will be updated for the Town Board in June.
- Commissioner Patrick Cumiskey states Blackberry woods third net is in bad shape.
- Commissioner Patrick Cumiskey says Bench is a huge hit all are enjoying it, maybe we should add some more.
- Backstop at Chelsea need to be looked at.

Motion to Close 8:17 PM