

TOWN OF SIMSBURY – CULTURE, PARKS, AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Subject to Vote of Approval – Regular Meeting Minutes – **Thursday, October 24, 2019** – 2 pages

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by David Bush, Chairman, in the Main Meeting Room of Town Hall. Other commission members who were present included Kelly Kearney, Gerry Wetjen, Dennis Fallon, Gina Morgan and Rachel Wellman. The C. P. & R. Director, Thomas Tyburski, was also present.

Mr. Bush updated the Commission that he is hopeful that they have now found a contact to move things along with the vacant Republican Culture, Parks and Recreation Commission position.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The approval of the August 29, 2019 minutes was postponed until the next meeting.

Public Session

None.

Presentations

Friends of Simsbury Farms Sign Donation Presentation. Friends of the Farm Chairman, Mark Deming, and Diane Ahern from Adams Ahern were present to share.

Mr. Kearney stated that Friends of the Farms has come to an agreement with Adams Ahern (West Hartford) to purchase and install signs at Simsbury Farms. There is now a question of design and meeting town regulation.

Ms. Ahern discussed the font, size, color and placement of the signs.

Mr. Tyburski requested that “administration” on the directional sign be changed to “rec offices”.

Mr. Toner spoke about the Town Forest Park sign and the template used, the thought was for standardization of all future park entrance signs.

Mr. Wetjen suggested that the David T. Emott, Jr. Memorial Family Fitness Trail be added to the directional sign at Simsbury Farms, as there are frequent questions as to where it begins.

Mr. Tyburski stated that at the next Board of Selectmen meeting the Board will determine whether to accept the donation, they may or may not ask about the standardization of signs at this point.

Mr. Wetjen made a motion to approve the wayfinding signs as presented this evening. Mr. Fallon seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Mr. Fallon made a motion that the Commission supports the standardization of destination (entrance) signs at town parks subject to further board approval. Mr. Wetjen seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

New Business

Town Park Signage- Discussion on design and uniformity. Mr. Toner spoke about the panel below the sign as well as the future standardization of park signs.

Simsbury Farms Golf Course Report. Mr. Tyburski report that they are having a great year compared to last year. Fifteen new passes have been sold as the result of the recent season pass promotion. Mr. Bush inquired as

to if there has been any maintenance issues. Mr. Tyburski stated that Mr. Wallace has completed work on the drainage swale on hole five as well as worked on two additional tees.

Simsbury Celebrates. Mr. Tyburski reported that planning is nearly complete and that they have a great group of volunteers. They are still working on fundraising, as it is down \$4-5K from last year.

Simsbury Farms Rink Update. Mr. Tyburski reported that the rink is prepped, however the ice has yet to be laid due to the forecast. They are hopeful they will start laying the ice next week. Lessons are almost sold out, they are currently working on tweaking levels to try to accommodate additional children.

Old Business

Commission Discussion on Long Term Vision for Simsbury Farms Golf Course Restaurant. Mr. Bush stated that this is an issue the Commission previously discussed and one that he would like to revisit. He believes that the restaurant is an integral part of the golf course and would like the Commission to discuss what its expectations are as to food service at the Farms.

Mr. Kearney shared that he believes that offering full entrees is imperative to the course with a full service bar, a larger bar, as well as a larger kitchen with fire code adjustments done as needed.

Mr. Bush stated that the kitchen size was cut by about 20% from the original plan and every vendor that has looked at it says it's not functional. He would like to see an improved patio and an outdoor grill area to be able to enjoy the great views at the course. He requested that the Commission think on this subject, visit the property, and they will revisit the topic at the December meeting.

Update on Parks and Open Space Master Plan Process. Mr. Tyburski shared with the Commission that there is a Parks and Open Space Master Plan Information Meeting Tuesday at the library and encouraged them to attend. He stated that the survey shows some consistent themes/trends, one theme being that many residents want Tower Ridge Golf Course to be preserved. The final report from the consultants is due in January.

Summer Movie In the Park Event Wrap Up. Mr. Tyburski reported that the Movie in the Park was a great night, 300-350 people attended the event. The event started around 5:00 p.m., there was a bounce house and TCBY food truck. Mr. Tyburski would like to see this event happen again.

Adjourn

Mr. Wetjen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kearney seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Next Meeting

The next Regular Meeting of the C. P. & R. Commission will be December 5, 2019 at 7 p.m. at Simsbury Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Taylor, Commission Clerk