



TOWN OF OXFORD

S.B. Church Memorial Town Hall
486 Oxford Road, Oxford, Connecticut 06478-1298
www.Oxford-CT.gov

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 4, 2013 OXFORD TOWN HALL

Call to Order

Vice Chairman Tom Federowicz called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

Present – Jim Leach, Kenn Maher, Christine Bavone, Kelly Weymer, Glen Schmitz, Greg Baktis,
*Elaine Raccio and Director Deb Gatto.

Absent – Joyce Silberkleit

Amendment to the Agenda

MOTION by Jim Leach to add Zingo Lacrosse to the agenda. Second by Kelly Weymer. Vote
– All ayes. Motion carried.

Zingo Lacrosse

Rich Allare and Dawn Hayes, 7 Meadow Drive, presented a proposal to start a Zingo Lacrosse league.

Mr. Allare noted he has been coaching lacrosse for 36 years, 400 games and has won five state championships and has started leagues in other towns in the state.

Mr. Allare explained the sport is a compliment to most other sports. He wants to work with the other leagues, not be in competition with them. It would be an alternative sport. Players would range in age from kindergarten through 6th grade and be divided into three age groups. It would include both girls and boys.

*E Raccio arrived at 7:45 P.M.

Mr. Allare requested use of a U9 soccer field for two days of practice and one weekend day for games for the spring season, March through June. More than one team would be able to practice on the field at the same time and the same field would not have to be scheduled for the practices.

The league would start out on an instructional basis then form into teams. Eventually he would like to have a traveling team and a high school team.

He submitted petitions, one online and ones posted at Oxford High School and Great Oak School. He said there were 150 signatures.

Mr. Allare has not contacted the High School Athletic Director about a High School team; he said he wanted the league to build up.

When questioned about the recent summer clinic, Mr. Allare noted that publishing was not done early enough, which may have led to the low enrollment. Registration fee was \$100.

When questioned about whether the league would be under Parks & Recreation or be independent, Mr. Allare said it would use Parks & Recreation fields, but would be under the auspices of U.S. Lacrosse.

The Commission noted the fields at the Oxford High School are utilized by the school teams. They also noted the limited amount of field availability. Mr. Allare and Ms. Hayes would be contacted about the Commission's decision.

Review and Approval of Minutes

MOTION by Greg Baktis to approve the regular meeting minutes of 11/6/13 Second by Glen Schumitz. Vote – All ayes. Motion carried.

Correspondence – None

Treasurer's Report- None

Review and Approval of Bills - None

Director's Report

Christmas Tree Lighting will be on 12/6/13.

Discussion on the giving tree for Chelsea Wheeler, who is in need of a transplant. Mrs. Gatto explained she had been asked about holding the fundraiser and brought it to First Selectman George Temple, who approved the idea. Since the announcement was made, several residents have inquired about having other giving trees; Mrs. Gatto noted that the First Selectman said there would be only one tree. The Commission noted it would be impossible to have a tree for everyone in need. The ideas of having one giving tree each year for different causes will be addressed in the future.

Committee/Liaison Reports

Tetlak Park Committee – It was noted the continuing addition of members to the committee results in time being spent on updating them and may result in getting a consensus and a quorum for meetings.

Other Business

Discussion on Zingo Lacrosse's request for field time. Mrs. Gatto noted that only nine kids participated in the summer clinic. Mrs. Gatto noted that the athletic directors at the Oxford High and Great Oak removed the petitions, which were put up without permission.

Mrs. Gatto spoke with the Tag Cosgriff, Oxford High Athletics Director who said that the school would not, in the near future, be starting a lacrosse team. Budget cuts would make it impossible to fund a new team when money needs to go towards existing teams or to reestablishing teams. The Board of Education does not have any plans, in the near future, to fund a High School lacrosse team.

Field availability was discussed. The Commission felt that maybe after the new fields are established at Tetlak, Park, there may be a possibility for scheduling field time for lacrosse. This could be in the next couple of years.

Mrs. Gatto said she would speak with Bob Goldberg, president of the soccer league, about field time they may be able to give to the lacrosse league.

MOTION by Tom Federowicz to have the Director discuss with Bob Goldberg, president of the soccer league, about available field time the league may be able to give to Zingo Lacrosse because at this time there is no field space available during the spring season. Second by Kelly Weymer. Vote – All ayes. Motion carried.

Adjournment

MOTION Kelly Weymer to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 P.M. Second by Greg Baktis. Vote – All Ayes. Motion carried.

FILED SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Respectfully submitted



Cynthia Peck
Clerk, Park & Recreation Commission

13 DEC -9 PM 12:02
TOWN OF OXFORD, CT
Margaret A. Black
TOWN CLERK