



# WATERTOWN PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**DATE:** Thursday, August 03, 2018  
**TIME:** 7:00 PM  
**LOCATION:** Watertown Municipal Center – Recreation Department  
61 Echo Lake Road, Watertown, Ct.

**I. Call to Order:**

Chairman William Donston called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**II. Roll Call:**

**PRESENT:** William Donston, Chairman  
Ken LaRosa, V. Chairman  
Pat Rinaldi, Secretary  
Karim Belica  
Joseph McGrail  
Al Mickel

**ABSENT:** Margaret Germain

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Lisa Carew, Parks & Recreation Director

**III. Public Participation:**

Bill set the rules on public participation with a 5-minute limit.

Barbara Zulkeski, 17 Mallory Road, Watertown

**RE:** Adam's Road Park

- was asking about what took place after the last meeting.

William Donston explained:

- Open area, get rid of some of the trees
- Possibly remove sand box

Barbara Zulkeski stated, said committee (home owners) is willing to help revitalize the area.

**IV. Approval of Minutes:**

A. Thursday, July 08, 2023, Regular Meeting

*MOTION: Ken LaRosa seconded by Al Mickel to approve the Regular Meeting minutes for July 08, 2023.*

Aye: 5 Donston, LaRosa, Rinaldi, Belica, Mickel

Nay: 0

Abstain: 1 McGrail

Motion passes

**V. Correspondence:**

- Watertown PD press release regarding graffiti
- Wage adjustment for drivers
- Knights of Columbus, thank you letter
- Award from Watertown/Oakville Veterans Council
- Senior Center Activities
- Police Report vandalism/graffiti
- Farmers Market
- Southbury Pickleball courts
- Pop up Naloxone Sites – Watertown & Oakville Greens
- Notice for Lake Winnemaug Phase II of Aquatic Treatment

Discussion on correspondence:

Joseph McGrail was concerned about the condition of the Westbury Room building and that the town isn't liable for the condition.

Joseph McGrail said he didn't know what happened with Cherry Hill Demolition.

**VI. Reports:**

A. Chairman

Chairman William Donston reported:

- Block Party, August 19<sup>th</sup>
- Would like to meet separately with each commission member.
- Summer programs going well.
- Talk of using turf, reused on hillside at Town Hall.
- Fall & Basket

- B. Director of Human, Social & Leisure Services  
Lisa Carew reported:

**SPECIAL EVENTS:**

Concerts, movies, Block Parties & the Farmers Market, staff is also getting ready for the Fall Festival

**CRESTBROOK:**

Hill path connecting the upper parking lot to the curve and pool deck is complete. Waiting for the contractor to finish the fences/guardrails.

**PARKS:**

The new fountain is installed and working at Echo Lake Park.

Aquatic treatments have been done at Echo, Sylvan and Lake Winnemaug. The second treatment will be done at Lake Winnemaug on August 16<sup>th</sup>.

Vandalism at the LW Boat Launch.

John and his staff have been busy between the field.

No one applied internally for the Laborers position. It'll be opened up to the public.

**RECREATION:**

BUSY Summer!!

**SOCIAL SERVICES:**

Summer busy time for the FB due to the kids being home from school

**SENIOR SERVICES:**

Senior newsletter is attached for review. Laura, is very short staffed right now due to illness and vacations.

Federal ARPA Funds will be used for additional transportation for the Seniors.

Many popular special events.

Lisa Carew gave the Assistant Director's report:

The Watertown Fall Festival Committee met on Tuesday, July 11th. Packets are available. Vendors are starting to send their applications in. We came up with a budget plan. Now we will start booking entertainment.

Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup> we had a bus trip to Lake George. It was sold out. Everything went well, I spoke with the tour guide and they said everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. We will definitely offer this trip again in the future.

On July 14<sup>th</sup> our Mini Musical Summer Camp performed. They put on a show based on the musical Newsies. It was so great to see the kids up on stage. They really did a wonderful job!!

Crestbrook Park Pool is up and running. Season passes were purchased, and families have been enjoying the pool every day. Adventure Camp utilizes the pool everyday M-F from 2-3pm. The lifeguards are doing a great job keeping everyone safe.

Every Wednesday in July we run our Summer Poker Run. This popular event is held at Veterans' Memorial Park. Runner has the chance to run either a 5K, 3K, or 1K. We hit a record number of participants at 64.

The P&R Department hosted a Summer Concert at Veterans' Memorial Park pavilion on Wednesday, July 5, 12, and 19. A great night of music and food! Music was provided by very talented bands! This event generated significant community support and patron attendance. We get approximately 350 people in attendance. Wednesday, July 26th – this was our 1<sup>st</sup> Family Movie Night. It was held at Veterans' Memorial Park pavilion. In all, we had about 200 people in attendance. Everyone was very receptive towards this community event. Minions – The Rise of Guru was great movie!!

We held our first annual Pool & Foam party held at Crestbrook Park Pool on Friday, July 28th. We had 50 kids who attended this awesome event for boys & girls in 6-8 grade. There was music, games and pizza and drinks were served.

Summer camps are going very well. We are starting in wind down. Fall programs are starting to come together. The Falls Activities Guide will be out mid-August.

#### C. Sub-Committees

Ken LaRosa reported:

- Golf course, sub-committee revamping rules for tournaments for 2024
- Positive note, golf memberships up
- He will start next month on course comparisons – tournaments, green fees & memberships.

Staver Committee

- Bill Donston will put a sub-committee together in September 2023

### VII. Old Business:

A. Proposed Community/Senior Center – no update.

B. Ordinary Joe's Golf Tournament

*MOTION: Ken LaRosa seconded by Pat Rinaldi to approve August 26, 2023 with 4 pm start time.*

Motion approved.

C. Update on 32 Jericho Road resident filling in Town owned/Veterans Memorial Park property– in the hands of the Town Attorney.

William Donston felt 5 years to remediate damage done to the town's property at Veterans Memorial Park was way too long.

D. Update on Cherry Hill demolition – (attached correspondence and photos)

*MOTION: William Donston seconded by Al Mickel “to request with the permission of the Town Manager, the Economic Development Commission contact Cherry Hill construction, regarding their portion of the Naugatuck River Greenway”.*

Motion approved

**VIII. New Business:**

A. Review and Consideration of Submitted Applications for 2023.

**IX. Adjournment:**

*MOTION: Pat Rinaldi seconded by Ken LaRosa to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:06 p.m.*

Motion Approved

Respectfully submitted,

---

William Donston, Chairman  
Watertown Parks and Recreation Commission

Park & Recreation  
Regular Meeting  
Date, 2023  
Page 6

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Susan King, Clerk