

**Branford Board of Recreation
Joe Trapasso Community Center
Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2024**

Board Members:

- √- Paul Criscuolo, Chairman
- √- Helen “Bimmie” Herget, Clerk
- √- Deborah Conklin
- Jeanne Crowley ~ excused
- William O’Brien ~ excused

Staff:

- √- Alex Palluzzi, Jr. Director
- √- Dale Izzo, Assistant Director

Guest:

Jen Orlando, Don Lawrence, Mike Wagner, Neil Sullivan

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:56 pm by Chairman, Paul Criscuolo. The February meeting minutes were not present so no vote was taken.

II. Correspondences: None

- III. Public Comments:** Neil Sullivan addressed the board as a parent/student athlete for little league to address the current use of the field usage policy, requesting that they want to use Branford fields for their team that is Northeast Clutch which is an East Haven Organization. Don Lawrence spoke on behalf of Little League and stated the facts about the Branford Junior Hornets, which was not disbanded. The team in question requesting fields in Branford did not want to play Little League, which is a requirement to play for the travel team and decided to seek another avenue and it left not enough players to field a team for Branford Junior Hornets. Mike Wagner also spoke as the assistant coach of the team requesting the field.

IV. **Directors Report:**

Community House: The AC/heating is under control as of right now. The patio is holding up and looks like the repairs are working.

Parks, Grounds and Facilities: We have started outside cleaning up the fields and starting to get the parks ready for spring and summer. Ralph Torre will be volunteering his time to put up the nets at Sliney field and again at Hammer after PW does the work moving the poles. Chuck Sherwood will be coming in the next couple of weeks to work on the fields and the one at Hammer, which is coming nicely. Pickleball and Tennis nets /courts are ready for play at Foote and Veteran's. We opened bids today for the Clay Courts at Foote Park. We are re-doing the basketball court with post tension at Foote Park and the softball field renovations. These projects are funded through the Foote Trust Grant.

Other: We have a new admin starting tomorrow, Nell Reinwald who will be covering the morning shift of the front office.

V. **Assistant Directors Report:**

Dale gave an overview of the activities and programs that are being offered this spring. Summer Camp registration opened March 1st and two sites are full. We still have one site that is open for registration. Hospice membership passes went on sale March 1st as well. We would like to thank Dr. Tranberg and Brendan Leddy for working with our department for facility usage this spring and summer.

Theatre: Summer Theatre Camp registration started March 1st and currently half full. This summer they will be producing Finding Nemo, Jr. We continue to collaborate with Legacy Theatre for class. The adult show will be Something Rotten.

Special Events: The Annual Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for March 23rd at Foote Park starting at 11:00am Sharp.

Upcoming Special Events: Music on the Green will be starting again this spring and continue throughout the summer into the fall. The Jazz series is set to start June 27th and the website has the full listing of artists. We are working on getting the artists bios on line.

Pool: The pool is open. We are doing ok with lifeguards and continue to train and run in-services with our staff. Swim lessons are running and have been successful

and will continue throughout the summer at both sites. Hospice Pool will be opening near the end of June and passes are on sale for Branford residents.

VI. Old Business:

Facility & Field Policy: The Board of Recreation has made this an open agenda item and did not action.

AED Committee Update: The AED rollout was successful. The AED's will be going into the parks this spring and we are working with the Fire Department so they know all the locations. Thank you to all who helped with this and the Branford Community Foundation and Guilford Savings Bank for their support.

Budget FY2025: We are waiting for the schedule to come out as to when our department will be presenting our budget to the Board of Finance.

VII. New Business: None

Next Meeting: April 10, 2024

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn at 8:29 pm

1st Bimmie Helen Herget

2nd: Deb Conklin

passed 3-0

Submitted by: Dale Izzo