

**Branford Board of Recreation
Joe Trapasso Community Center
Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2021**

Members present:

Paul Criscuolo, Chairman
Deborah Conklin
Bill O'Brien (7:08p)
Bimmie Herget

Staff Present:

Alex Palluzzi, Jr.
Dale Izzo

Guest: no present

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman, Paul Criscuolo.

A motion was made to accept the monthly meeting minutes from October 13, 2021

1st: Bimmie Herget 2nd: Deborah Conklin passed 3-0

A motion was made to adjust the agenda, moving New Business: Solar Energy Presentation to be presented first.

1st: Deborah Conklin 2nd: Bimmie Herget passed 4-0

II. **New Business:** The board heard a presentation from Stephan Hartmann from Earthlight Solar and Energy Solutions. His presentation included the idea of adding a solar canopy to our parking lot. This would produce electricity, it would look like a car port that would serve to help with inclement weather for the department's fleet. Our department will be providing electric bills to the committee for analysis and they will be looking to see if our site is appropriate for placement.

III. **Correspondences:** An email was read from a resident that was very happy that our department and the town acknowledges Hanukkah. Alex read a letter from the Board of Selectman that they re-appointed Bill O'Brien to the Board of Recreation.

IV. **Public Comments:** none

V. Directors Report

- Community House: The parking lot lights are all working now. The patio on the Church Street side is being redone in the spring. We have added more monitors around the bottom floor of the building to provide signage and entertainment. (teen area). The grant has been submitted to the Foote Trust. We have included an increase in the grant for a new playground and splash pad. Junior League Basketball has begun and everyone

is required to wear a mask when attending and participating regardless of vaccination status.

- COVID-19: We continue to follow protocols. We are requiring that everyone entering the building, in all common areas, bathrooms and gymnasium, wear a mask regardless of vaccination status. Once they are in a meeting room, vaccinated folks have the option of wearing their mask or not. Most recently we had COVID cases and had to put students and PT staff into quarantine.

VI. Assistant Directors Report

Dale presented all the Holiday programs that the department is holding. The holiday Tree Lighting and Parade was successful, with it being one of the biggest to date. Thank you for Bill O'Brien for his photos'. We have made a video that is posted on our website. The staff is working on winter programs and they will be released. The Santa Deliveries Program with the Fire Department will take place the week of December 13th. We have close to 80 families which is doubled from last year. We are very grateful to the Branford Fire Department for their partnership with this program. We just received approval from the Board of Selectman for our department to host First Night Branford on January 7th. We are in the beginning stages of planning that night. The Branford Parks and Recreation Department Shoreline Theatre Company show of Elf, Jr, will take place December 17th and 18th. Tickets are on sale now by visit the website or by calling to office.

VII. Old Business: None

Next meeting: January 12, 2022

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn at 8:15pm

1st Bill O'Brien

2nd Deborah Conklin– Passed 5-0

Submitted by: Dale B Izzo