

**Branford Board of Recreation**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 8, 2020**

**Members present:**

Paul Criscuolo, Chairman  
Deborah Conklin  
Jeanne Crowley  
Helen 'Bimmie' Herget  
Bill O'Brien

**Staff Present:**

Alex Paluzzi, Jr

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:18 pm by Chairman, Paul Criscuolo.

II. Approval of meeting minutes

There were no minutes from the December meeting.

III. Correspondence

Alex read a letter from a parent praising the theater program and the positive impact it has had on their child. No other correspondence.

IV. Public Comment

There was no public comment

V. Directors Report

Alex provided an update on the status of the final stages of the new building construction. He is working with the Building Committee and the contractor to resolve several outstanding 'punch list' items.

Foote Park:

\*The project to renovate the rest rooms is moving forward, to update and make them ADA compliant. A contractor has been selected and work should begin soon.

\*A response from the Foote Trust regarding the amount of the 2020 distribution, is pending.

Youngs Pond:

Alex is working to evaluate the need to replace/repair the softball backstop. There is also discussion related to improving the parking lot.

Budget:

Alex provided an update on the utility costs for 2018/19 – which are on the rise, specifically water and electricity. Given the enlarged Community House and additional services at other parks, i.e. Foote, Branford Hills and Vets – those costs are expected to continue to increase in 2019/2020. Alex is working with the Town and CT Greenbank – Solar Map to explore the use of solar energy, at some parks.

VI. Asst Directors Report

In Dale's absence, Alex provided the report.

The Branford 375<sup>th</sup> wrap up celebration, scheduled for Thursday January 16<sup>th</sup>, is in jeopardy of being cancelled – due to a lack of ticket sales.

The Shoreline Theater Company's production of Frozen, Jr is set to take place January 9-11.

Over 500 tickets have been sold, to date.

VII. Old Business

Paul Criscuolo met with representatives from the Branford Arts Counsel (BAC), at the Community House, to evaluate the placement display methods for the artwork. He procured a quote for a specific art hanging system – with a cost of \$995.

A motion was made by Bill O'Brien / 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bimmie Herget - to agree to share the cost – evenly divided between the BAC and the Bd of Recreation – Passed 5-0.

The BAC will coordinate with Alex to move forward and to arrange placement of the artwork.

VIII. New Business

Deborah Conklin brought forward a recommendation that the Board approach the Town and research an athlete safety program. The goal is to educate and train coaches, officials, staff, etc. on the recognition, reduction and response to misconduct, in sport. Paul and Deborah will request a meeting with the Town Risk Manager to open this dialogue.

Next meeting: February 12, 2020

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn at 9:00pm – 1<sup>st</sup> Bill O'Brien 2<sup>nd</sup> Bimmie Herget – Passed 5-0

Submitted by: Deborah Conklin