

**Madison Beach and Recreation Commission**  
**Monthly Meeting**  
**June 4, 2019**

**In attendance:** Rob Card, Mary Pat Nardino, Pam Greene, Shane Kokoruda, Vince Dussich, Scot Erskine (Director), Carrie Gazda (Recreation Supervisor), Bill Piggott (Salt Meadow Park)

**Guests/members of the public in attendance:** Ralph Debiasi, (Madison Resident)

**Absent:** Bruce Wilson, Joe Oslander, Ted Rahmann, Virginia Raff

Meeting called to order by Chair Rob Card at 7:00 p.m.

I. Approval of the Minutes dated May 7, 2019

Amendments to the Minutes:

- i. Under Rockland Preserve: term is “single tracks” not “single bike tracks.”
- ii. Under New Business: Vince Dussich requested from Beach & Rec a clear definition of what “Adult Open Gym” means including guidelines and restrictions, but did not receive a final determination.

Motion to approve the minutes as amended by Dussich, second by Nardino; the minutes were approved unanimously as amended.

II. Public Comments: Madison resident Ralph Debiasi commented on the value of Beach and Rec offering a “Nanny Pass” to residents who would like their childcare providers to have access to the Surf Club so their children can spend time there while parents are at work. He is concerned about that option not being offered any longer, and that to pay an additional fee would be punitive. A discussion ensued and the issue will be placed on the next meeting agenda.

III. Chairman’s Report/Correspondence: Rob Card deferred his remarks to Old Business.

IV. Section Reports:

A. Greenway Trail: No report

B. Salt Meadow Park Report: Bill Piggott reporting

- i. Publicity on the June 9 Music Festival has elicited a good response on Facebook and the weather is looking good for the day of the event.

C. Bauer Park Report: Scot Erskine reporting for Ted Rahmann

- i. The DEP is investigating an incident regarding the removal of a killdeer nest from one of the garden plots because the killdeer is a protected species in the State of Connecticut.
- ii. Scot is suggesting a plot “clean-up” deposit as an incentive for gardeners to leave their plots in good condition after the growing season.

- D. Rockland Preserve: Scot Erskine reporting for Joe Oslander
  - i. Fencing is completed for the bike park.
  - ii. Jason Englehardt is working on remapping the park to create a master map where all tracks are available on QVR.
  
- E. Facilities and Grounds: Scot Erskine reporting
  - i. New volleyball net system has been installed at the Surf Club.
  - ii. Salt Meadow Park has been mowed for the Music Festival.
  - iii. Priority has been keeping up with ball fields, especially with so much rain.
  - iv. In response to Rob Card asking about upcoming projects:
    - 1. Survey work is being done for a new modular garage building as headquarters for grounds equipment.
    - 2. Restrooms/pavilion and scenic overlooks at Salt Meadow Park will go forward now that the Town's CIP budget has passed.
    - 3. Ponds at Bauer Park will undergo a study to determine the depth of sediment and need for dredging.
    - 4. Exchange Field parking area and access road will receive improvements.
    - 5. Phragmites will be eradicated at end of Cottage Road at Salt Meadow Park to lay stone for access to boat ramp.
  
- F. Programs: Carrie Gazda reporting
  - i. Summer programs and camps are filling up.
  - ii. A decrease in grant funding from the Erwin Bauer Trust is affecting the continuation of certain Bauer Park programs related to Environmental Science Studies under the direction of Julie Ainsworth.
  
- G. Personnel: Scot Erskine reporting
  - i. Summer staff have been onboarded and started on Memorial Day weekend.
  - ii. Things went well at the Surf Club over the holiday weekend with the transition plan that they had in place for parking.
  
- V. Old Business
  - A. Citizen Survey Update: Shane Kokoruda reporting
    - i. Shane and Vince presented a draft survey with the goal of garnering insights about how the public perceives the Beach & Recreation Department in terms of performance and as an organization.
    - ii. Discussion ensued regarding possible changes:
      - 1. Adding a few questions to obtain demographic information.
      - 2. Going from a 10-point scale to a 5-point scale for evaluation questions.
      - 3. There was some disagreement about whether questions 10 and 11 regarding how B&R projects are management and executed should be included as written.

- iii. Vince Dussich made a motion to approve the survey with all discussed changes including questions 10 and 11 regarding project management and execution. Shane Kokoruda seconded the motion for the sake of discussion. Commission members came to a consensus that a vote to approve could not be taken until a final version of the survey was submitted for review. Vince Dussich withdrew his motion with the understanding that Shane will meet with members of the Commission and bring back a final version at the July meeting.

B. Parking Management Plan Update: Scot Erskine reporting

- i. The new target date for the online parking system to go live is June 17.
- ii. Complis has been bought out by another company, Passport, which is already in the business of implementing parking apps in the city of New Haven (among others).
- iii. Scot outlined his plans for communicating to the public when the new online system is in place.

VI. New Business: No new business; the next meeting is on Tuesday, July 2, 2019.

VII. Adjournment: Greene made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dussich. The meeting ended at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pamela Greene, Secretary

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL