

**PARK & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024**

**LOCATION: RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**6:15 P.M.**

**Minutes**

**PRESENT:** Ezio Capozzi, Jr., Danielle Angelillo, Ray Carroll, Kathy Pugliese, Anthony Wasley, Andre DeGregorio, Joseph Catanzaro

**ABSENT:** None

**STAFF:** Courtney Hewett, Park and Recreation Director, Ben Gediman, Town Council Liaison

**I. MINUTES**

**A motion was made by:** Kathy Pugliese to approve the January 11, 2024 Meeting Minutes with a couple of changes. Ray Carroll and Andrew Wasley's names were spelled incorrectly. "The STOP NETS" are 15 feet high, not 50 feet.

**Seconded by:** Anthony Wasley

**All in Favor 7 to 0**

**Motion Passes**

**Minutes Approved with changes**

**II. ORAL PETITIONS**

None

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Little Free Libraries**

Emily Wasley, English Teacher at PHS was present to discuss the possibility of the English Honor Society placing (2), "Little Free Libraries" at Trumbull and Norton Park. The students in the National English Honor Society would be responsible for checking on them and making sure that they are not vandalized. Mrs. Wasley would create a schedule for the students. These hours would be used for the volunteer service hours required for participation in the National English Honor Society. Mrs. Wasley plans to have the Shop Classes at the High School put together the boxes. She reached out to the other schools to see if the kids would be able to paint the wood for the libraries with creative designs, colors etc. She is going to see if there are any local companies that would donate the glass required for the door. The students would raise the money to pay for the materials to make the boxes and purchase books. There would also be an opportunity for local businesses to donate money towards the books, flowers, benches etc.

The board talked about possibly of asking Buildings and Grounds to help install the boxes, as they will require a stake or pole to be put in the ground for safety. Courtney to follow up with Town Staff. Courtney suggested adding a QR code to the box, so if someone is looking for a particular book or additional books they could check the library. Courtney contacted Trish at the Library and she would be willing to donate books.

The board all agrees that this is a great idea. Ezio will look for the best locations for the libraries to be placed. Mrs. Wasley to send the proposed dimensions to Ezio and Courtney so the right placement can be located.

Mrs. Wasley said that she would like to complete this project by May so the Senior Class can be involved.

**A motion was made to approve the “Little Free Libraries” at Trumbull and**

**Norton Park by:** Kathy Pugliese

**Seconded by:** Andre DeGregorio

**All in Favor 7 to 0**

**Motion Passes**

2. **CIP Budget Update** - Courtney shared that the money was approved by town staff for the Soccer Club, \$9,700s, this still needs to be approved by town council. Funds to be available on July 1<sup>st</sup> if passed. She passed on the proposed Master Plan to the Town Staff. The Tennis/Pickleball Courts proposal was not approved at this time. The town will pursue the Urban Act Grant and State Representative Cooley will write a letter in support of The Town of Plainville once the first stage is passed, to assist in paying for the Tennis Courts. Courtney to follow up with Town Staff. The proposed 2<sup>nd</sup> Pavilion at Paderewski will require community fundraising. Courtney stated that whatever cost is remaining will be discussed next Fiscal Year, 2025.
3. **Pavilion Reservation Update** – Courtney talked about the possibility of increasing the charge to rent the pavilions at Paderewski and Norton Park. The Board discussed it and decided it was a good idea.

**A motion was made by: Anthony Wasley to increase the Pavilion Rental fees to:**

**Norton** - Resident Fee \$75

**Norton** - Non-Resident fee \$150

**Paderewski** – Resident \$100

**Paderewski** – Non-Resident \$150

**Seconded by:** Joseph Catanzaro

**All in Favor 7 to 0**

**Motion Passes**

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

- A. **Irrigation at Soccer Field** –Ezio met with the Plainville Soccer Club about the irrigation for the Soccer Practice Field between Norton Park Road and Madeley Court, across the street from the Tennis Courts.
- B. **“STOP NETS” – Soccer Club** - The Soccer Club will start looking for companies to do the installation of the Stop Nets in the Soccer Field. Courtney to pass on the names of installation contractors on to them. The Soccer Club will also need to pay for the required signage.
- C. **Budget** – Courtney will be meeting with the Town Staff about the budget. She will report any changes or updates at an upcoming meeting.
- D. **Summer Update** – Courtney reported that she sent out a letter to see if the Summer Lifeguards and Camp Counselors will be returning for 2024. They need to respond by March 18. Courtney to report at upcoming meetings what the responses are. Ashley is working on setting up weekly entertainment for the children attending camp this summer. Ashley will also work on staff training.

Camp prices will increase due to the minimum wage increases. The pool pricing will remain the same. The pool prices were increased last year.

Courtney will be changing the Administrative Assistant position, that has been vacate since Covid, into a Internship position for college students that are interested in the Recreation Field. It will pay minimum wage, but offer the students the hours they need for experience to graduate college.

E. **Bike Trail** – was discussed. Courtney to get more info from Mark Devoe and share it with the board.

## V. ADJOURNMENT

**A motion was made by:** Anthony Wasley to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 pm

**Seconded by:** Kathy Pugliese

**All in Favor 7 to 0**

**Motion Passes**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Jennifer Dahlstrom*

Recording Secretary