

**PARK & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**AUGUST 3, 2023**

**Location: Norton Park**

**6:00 P.M.**

**Minutes**

**PRESENT:** Ezio Capozzi, Andre DeGregorio, Ben Gediman, Danielle Angelillo, Quinn Christopher

**ABSENT:** Brent Davenport

**STAFF:** Courtney Hewett, Park and Recreation Director

**I. MINUTES**

**A motion was made by:** Ben Gediman to approve the May11, 2023 Meeting Minutes as written.

**Seconded by:** Quinn Christopher

**All in Favor 5 to 0**

**Motion Passes**

**Minutes Approved**

**II. ORAL PETITIONS**

John Kisluk, 65 Forestville Avenue was present. He shared that he thinks Paderewski Pond should be open for fishing and boating. He stated that we need more activities for recreation and should not be removing them.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Kapura / Forbes Charity Event** – Kapura and Forbes were hoping to utilize Paderewski Park for a charity event to benefit Habitat for Humanity on September 23, 2023. There would be food trucks, a bounce house and carnival games. Ben asked how busy the park is at that time of the year. Courtney explained that since the splash pad is off, the park usage is not peak at that time.

**A motion was made by:** B. Gediman to approve the request for Kapura / Forbes to use Paderewski Park on September 23 for a Charity Event.

**Seconded by:** Q. Christopher

**All In Favor 5 to 0**

**Motion Passes**

- B. Stop Ball Nets for Soccer** –Julie Giano, on behalf of the Plainville Soccer Club has asked the Park Department to consider letting the league buy Stop Nets for soccer game practices. The league would buy, install and uninstall each season. Danielle, who is a soccer coach and on the Recreation Advisory Board mentioned that it is a huge safety concern and that soccer balls often are kicked into the road in front of Norton Park. Some neighbors are refusing to give balls back, if they land in their yard. Ezio said he thinks people would try to climb on the nets and is interested in a permanent / stable solution. Courtney reminded the group that B&G would need to be on board, but if soccer gets a more permanent solution. It is important to do for safety/ liability reasons.

**A motion was made by:** D. Angelillo to approve the Soccer Club installing “Stop Nets” at Norton Park if Buildings and Grounds approves and Plainville Soccer Club would pay for the permanent structure.

**Seconded by:** A. DeGregorio

**All in Favor 5 to 0**

**Motion Passes**

- C. Changes to Youth Rec Basketball** – The Recreation Department has been working on growing their Basketball Programs and is working to restructure, so all grades are included through Elementary School. Mini hoops will be dividing into 2 age groups 3-4 and 5/K. The Recreation League will change from grades 2 and 3 to Grades 1 and 2. Grade 3 will join PAL and that will be divided into Grades 3&4 and Grades 5&6, instead of 4-6, as JV/Varsity. In addition, we will start charging a small fee for PAL to cover rising costs of referees and school usage.
- D. Age Policy for Camp** – To attend camp with an age policy, children must be able to meet the minimum age requirement that begins that session of camp. If a child is turning 4/7 years old by September 1<sup>st</sup> of that year, they may be allowed to attend Mini Camp / Day Camp per the discretion of the Recreation Department. This is based in a ratio number set up by the State of Connecticut age groups.

If a parent is looking for a younger sibling to attend the same camp as an older sibling (ex: a 6 year old attending Day Camp, which is for ages 7 to 12), then that shall be allowed as it is a one to one ration. This shall be allowed, if the younger sibling turns 6 by June 1<sup>st</sup> of that year.

The board decided to table the age policy discussion for camps. Courtney said they may switch to grades, but Ben said that age was better. Courtney to research what other Departments do.

- E. **Pool Pass Identification Policy** – Courtney stated that the Department is looking to tighten up residency proof for pool passes. The board decided to adopt the following policy :

*All residents over the age of 19 + must show proof of residency, which includes a driver's license with a Plainville address or state ID Card with a current Plainville Tax Form.*

**A motion was made by:** B. Gediman to adopt the Pool Pass Identification Policy.

**Seconded by:** Q. Christopher

**All in Favor 5 to 0**

**Motion Passes**

#### IV. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. **Paderewski Pond Recommendation Updates** – Courtney updated the Board. It does not appear that the Town Council will be supporting the Conservation Commission Recommendations. They go against Town Ordinances, so that make it even more complicated to pursue them.
- B. **Signage update**–Tilcon has volunteered to make some updates to Paderewski Park. Signage was mentioned, as something that they are interested in as well. They would also like to add benches and update the interior of the building, garage doors and add an epoxy coat to the floor and paint. The interior of the building will be the first phase. The Town and the Recreation Department are very excited for these improvements.

#### V. ADJOURNMENT

**A motion was made by:** D. Angelillo to adjourn the meeting.

**Seconded by:** A. DeGregorio

**All in Favor 5 to 0**

**Motion Passes**

Respectfully submitted,

*Jennifer Dahlstrom*  
Recording Secretary