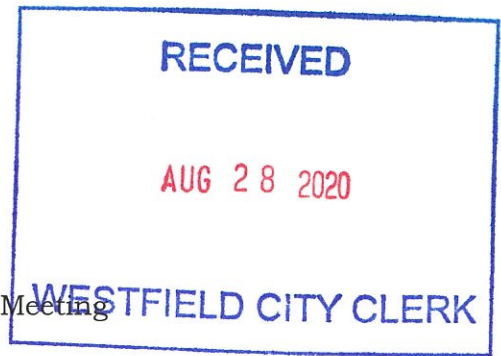




Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
July 27, 2020



Via Remote Participation

Commissioners Present: Scott LaBombard, Kenneth Magarian, Vincent Olinski, Michael Tirrell, Sara Unger and Robert Veronesi

Commissioners Absent: Jane DeBarbieri and Douglas Morash

Staff: None

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by via remote participation with Michael Tirrell, Chairperson presiding asking commissioners for a voice roll call by calling out a "Yea".

Sara Unger Yea, Vincent Olinski Yea, Robert Veronesi, Yea, Michael Tirrell Yea, Scott LaBombard yea and Kenneth Magarian Yea.

Michael Tirrell asked for a roll call of staff – None attended (Commissioners concerned)

Michael Tirrell asked if anyone had any questions regarding the zoom June 11 minutes and if anyone wanted to set motion. He called out each commissioner for a vote.

Motion made by Robert Veronesi to accept the minutes of June 11, 2020 motion

Seconded by Vincent Olinski. Vote as follows: Sara, yes, Vincent Olinski, Robert Veronesi, Yes, Michael Tirrell yes, Scott LaBombard yes, and Kenneth Magarian yes. All in favor.

Motion passed

Public Participation: None

Michael Tirrell read outload the Public Participation as follows: Due to technological and staffing constraints, public participation/comment will be suspended at this time. In the event of a Public Hearing, both the applicant and the public will be notified on the agenda for said meeting of how to call in and participate.

City Council Communication: None

Business or Items for Discussion:

1. Mike Tirrell read the annual renewal contract for purchasing (Emailed) for David Billips, Director and Francis Cain, Assistant Director as approval for "All" and said since David Billips is not here tonight we will add this and the Sadie Knox Playground parking lot on the next months agenda in August.
2. Vincent Olinski said that Peg Goralczyk from the department needed commission signatures on the form and he has stopped in. Michael Tirrell informed commissioners to stop at the office to sign the form when they have a chance.
3. Michael Tirrell informed commissioners that he sent out an email to Mayor Humason and the Chief of Police regarding the proper protocol with permits use of area forms and the commissioners regarding events at parks and keeping them informed. He apologized he sent email out late and will do a follow up as he has not heard back yet and add it to the next agenda in August.

- 07/17/21
4. Robert Veronesi brought up a group was at Park Square campaigning and he thought it was in support of the police. They had signs up and were on corners of the park and his concern was the islands while driving you cannot see the road going around corners with political signs. The signs were up against the pavilion and he believes they were inside the pavilion. Michel Tirrell sked him about the date and he will contact the Mayor.
 5. Sara Unger said if it is not in our parks, we couldn't do anything about islands or sidewalks if not our property. She said this might be police or a traffic issue.
 6. Robert Veronesi said that the sign holders were also at Soldiers Monument or General Shepard and those areas are under us. The signs and visibility of the road while driving is distracting and he feels it is a safety issue. Elm Street is another area where the island and lights are they stand on with signs.
 7. Kenneth Magarian said that this has come to us as a concern he is suggesting that Michael Tirrell, Chairperson discuss the monument areas with the Mayor or Police and any other areas that Robert Veronesi went over.
 8. Michael Tirrell explained that it is an interesting topic and we can bring it to the attention of traffic control or police we do not have a say in sidewalks, corners, or campaigning with political signs he will add this information to the Mayor.
 9. Rail trail report- (Emailed) Michael was having internet difficulties pulling it up. Sara Unger said it was informational only sent in July. Michael said this is just an update he head a Muriel was painted.
 10. Robert Veronesi questioned if the railtrail was turned over to the dept. Michael Tirrell said they like to keep us updated once or twice a year.
 11. Michael Tirrell read out load Permit – Use of area form for Petre Melnick to use Kane/Wojtkiewicz Park for a day of prayer on August 6 from 7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. with music and guitar. They will practice social distancing. No electricity needed. He said any discussion from commissioners. He read the amount of people expected 80 to 120 and that was a concern. He also said that by not having a person here or in on web zoom we cannot ask those questions and asked that Peg from the dept. include them in the next agenda under the zoom call. He asked for a motion or discussion. (Commissioners agreed)

Motion made by Scott LaBombard to approve the permit for Mr. Melnik for use of Kane/Wojtkiewis park as presented motion seconded by Sara Unger. He called out each commissioner for a vote. Vote as follows: Sara, yes, Vincent Olinski, Robert Veronesi, Yes, Michael Tirrell yes, Scott LaBombard yes, and Kenneth Magarian yes. All in favor.

Motion passed

12. Vincent Olinski said he could not see 100 people having social distancing at that small area/park.
13. Michael Tirrell said they could spread out easterly and westerly of the park. He is not sure of the amount of space needed per area to practice social distancing.
14. Scott LaBombard asked if the area is well lit and it is a small space and his concern was if it is lit up and how visible is the area around those times.
15. Michael Tirrell said he believes lights are there and times 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. with daylight savings still should be light. People crossing the roads would be seen at that time.

16. Kenneth Magarian asked that we include the permittees like the planning board commission in the zoom call so if we have questions they can answer them. Michael Tirrell will look into this.
17. Vincent Olinski said then all other renewals would have to be included as well. Michael Tirrell said yes anyone that wants to use an area or permit application to add to zoom if city hall is not open.
18. Sara Unger brought up the capacity of people and the lighting conditions during social distancing. What does the capacity allow and the square footage.
19. Scott LaBombard said restaurants have a capacity they have to follow regarding social distancing.
20. Michael Tirrell said he will do a follow up call with Tom Hibert from the health dept. before we give Mr. Melnik approval and find out the best safe capacity and get his views and reminded commissioners this park does not get that many requests.
21. Vincent Olinski agreed an answer from Tom Hibert could give us a number for capacity level.
22. After discussion of the permit, Michael Tirrell wanted to revise the vote of permit for Mr. Melnik. Commissioners agreed.

Revised motion made by Scott LaBombard to approve the permit for Mr. Melnik for use of Kane/Wojtkiewis Park as presented Aug. 6 rain date Aug. 20 times 7:30 p.m.-9:30p.m. with contingency that the Board of Health and state regulations follows to social distancing and adhere to guidelines after Michael Tirrell talks to Mr. Hibert, from the health dept. and what the reasonable capacity is regarding social distancing and what the numbers are and inform Mr. Melnik the capacity numbers. Motion seconded by Sara Unger. Michael Tirrell called out each commissioner for a revised vote.

Vote as follows: Sara, yes, Vincent Olinski, Robert Veronesi, Yes, Michael Tirrell yes, Scott LaBombard yes, and Kenneth Magarian yes. All in favor.

Motion passed

23. Michael Tirrell went over Fall/Winter brochure prices and referees for basketball from Jim Blascak (emailed) and said the commission reviews them each year like the seasonal staff for wages. He asked if commissioners had a chance to review them. He then read outload fall programs prices from 2019 to 2020 remain the same for pee wee soccer \$ 40.00, with ball \$ 45.00, Tennis \$ 65.00, Pickleball \$ 65.00 and adult tennis \$ 65.00. he read winter programs for basketball Instructional \$ 50.00, Freshmen, \$ 50.00, Sophomore \$ 80.00, Junior \$ 80.00, Senior \$ 100.00, High School \$100.00, Suburban travel League \$ 160.00, Adults Men's basketball \$ 400.00 (Team), Father/daughter dance \$ 60.00, Mother/son Luau \$ 60.00.
24. Chart WUB (Westfield United basketball) Referees (per game) Soph/Jr div. \$ 20.00 per game, Sr/HS referees \$ 30.00 a game, playoffs \$ 30.00 per game. He said any discussion or motion.
25. Robert Veronesi asked about field hockey why it was not listed.

Motion made by Vincent Olinski to approve fall-winter program rates and referee salary on charts as presented Motion seconded by Sara Unger. Michael Tirrell called out each commissioner for a vote. Vote as follows: Sara, yes, Vincent Olinski, Robert Veronesi, Yes, Michael Tirrell yes, Scott LaBombard yes, and Kenneth Magarian yes. All in favor.
Motion passed

Schedule of bills – (Attached) Designated board members -Approved by Vincent Olinski

Reports: Michael Tirrell said no staff reports were emailed or sent. He will do a follow up.

Kenneth Magarian asked or wondered why reports were not emailed. (Jim, Scott –no reports given)

Robert Veronesi said he thought he hear Scott Hathaway was in the guards.

Scott LaBombard said that his concern is when staff is not present at meetings, we have not been meeting much he feels something should be in the reports because people ask him questions, he does not have an answer, and it is embarrassing. For example, the basketball nets were up then down and people are asking when they will go back up. The regulations as basketball is a risk they should stay down. There are no signs up to inform the public why the nets are down. Michel Tirrell said he would contact staff for reports.

Robert Veronesi said an incident happened at Municipal basketball courts where police were called for large groups. They wanted the nets down the next day.

Scott LaBombard said for one incnet should they have been taken down or maybe never put up to begin with and have signage to explain to people.

Michael Tirrell went over Governors phases guidelines approved basketball distance hoops so they went back up. Large groups were not following social distancing and the police monitor the areas.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Scott LaBombard, Motion seconded by Kenneth Magarian. All in favor. Motion passed.

The next meeting is scheduled for August (We are not sure if city hall will re-open or held by via remote)

Robert Veronesi suggested we cancel the August meeting we always do during the summer.

Documents used:

Rail trail update- emailed
Fall-Winter program fees-emailed
Referee Salary chart-emailed
Schedule of bills-emailed

Douglas Morash Secretary of Commission

Typed organized by zoom video: Peggy Goralczyk, Head Clerk