

**Branford Board of Recreation  
Joe Trapasso Community Center  
Meeting Minutes  
December 11, 2024**

**Board Members:**

- √- Paul Criscuolo, Chairman
- √- Helen “Bimmie” Herget, Clerk
- √- Nancy Drevins
- √- Jeanne Crowley
- William O’Brien

**Staff:**

- √- Alex Palluzzi, Jr. Director
- √- Dale Izzo, Assistant Director

**Guest:**

Branford Festival Committee

**I. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Chairman, Paul Criscuolo. A motion was made to approve the October meeting minutes from 11-13-2024.

1<sup>st</sup>: Jeanne Crowley      2<sup>nd</sup>: Bimmie Herget      Motion passed 4 -0

**II. Correspondences: none**

**III. Public Comments:**

Greg Jerolman 160 Pheasant Lane Branford made a suggestion with the retirement of recreation director that the Field at WIS be considered to be named after him.

**IV. Directors Report:**

**Community House:** Alex reported that at the end of the month we will be getting the floors in gym resurfaced and all the carpets cleaned throughout the building.

**Parks, Grounds and Facilities:**

**Foote Park:** lighting project has been funded.

**Veteran’s Park:** the lighting project has been funded and we are in the final stages of approval for funds to replace the playground.

**Hammer Field Playground:** The playground is underway. The handicap spinner is in and the rest of the work will be done next week. We have our plaque ready to go on it and hope to get the rededication done just after the holiday.

**WIS Field Project:** It is moving along and currently ahead of schedule.

**The Bocce Courts:** The Bocce courts are moving along and almost completed. Thank you to Gary Zielinski, Public Works and The Eagle Scouts for doing a great job.

**Parker Park:** We are done for the season. The commission is looking towards the future for upgrades.

**Personnel:** N/A

**V. Assistant Directors Report:**

**Pool:** The pool will be closed for the holiday break from December 21<sup>st</sup> through Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Special Events:** The Holiday parade and tree lighting was one of the most successful. Santa Gift Delivery starts next week. We have tripled our program going to over 140 homes. We have several other holiday programs going on and our winter programming registration has started. Our next big event will be First Night Branford on the green Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>

**VI. Old Business:**

**Facility & Field Policy:** no action

**VII. New Business:**

**Officer Elections:** A motion was made to appoint Paul Criscuolo as Chairman of the board

1<sup>st</sup>: Jeanne Crowley                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Bimmie Herget                      passed 4-0

A motion was made to appoint Bimmie Herget as clerk of the board

1<sup>st</sup>: Jeanne Crowley                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Nancy Drevins                      passed 4-0

**Usage of Hammer Field:**

Sheryl Morrell and Ed Massotta from The Branford Festival presented their plan for usage of Hammer Field for the Festival in June of 2025 due to the construction project that will take place to Main Street and the Town Green. They presented their plan.

A motion was made to accept the 2025 Branford Festival to happen at Hammer Field working closely with the department during the planning process.

1<sup>st</sup>. Jeanne Crowley                      2<sup>nd</sup> Bimme Herget                      passed 4-0

**Special Recognition** The board addressed Alex Palluzzi, Jr on his well-deserved retirement as the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department. Thank you Alex for over 50 yrs of services to the Town of Branford.

**Next Meeting:** January 8, 2025

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn at 7:25 pm

1<sup>st</sup> Bimmie Herget

2<sup>nd</sup>: Nancy Drevins

passed 4-0

Submitted by: Dale B Izzo