

**Branford Board of Recreation
Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2020**

Members present: Zoom meeting due to COVID-19

Paul Criscuolo, Chairman

Deborah Conklin

Jeanne Crowley

Helen 'Bimmie' Herget

Bill O'Brien (signed on to meeting at 7:25pm)

Staff Present:

Alex Palluzzi, Jr

Dale Izzo

Guest:

First Selectman, James Cosgrove

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Chairman, Paul Criscuolo.

II. Approval of meeting minutes

A motion was made to approve the April 8, 2020 meeting minutes

1st: Deborah Conklin 2nd: Jean Crowley passed 4-0

III. Correspondence

No correspondence.

IV. Public Comment

There was not public comment

V. Directors Report

Alex provided an update about staffing due to Coronavirus COVID 19, we continue to take precautions cleaning the building and wiping surfaces. He gave an updated on how the town is trying to get the town employees back to work using physical barriers, hand sanitizer, mask, and drop boxes. GGB has been making some modifications to our office. Currently we have 145 employees in our department and 22 are working to date. Our department has been helping to disturb masks from our office to town to local businesses that have registered to recent them. We will be hosting our 3rd emergency blood drive on May 14th. Beaches are open and we are working with HR to get lifeguards back and working up coming. Branford Point is limited for parking. Park guards are on duty. Hospice has given us the opportunity to use the pool this summer and we are waiting on the Governor's Executive orders in the next couple of weeks. Alex reported that the Branford Festival, the annual fireworks, and the summer Jazz concert series have been cancelled for the season. Staff has been meeting weekly virtual for staff meetings. The maintenance staff continue to work outside after cleaning the building on a daily

basis. Alex gave a detailed report about the parks: In response to COVID-19 our parks are open, playgrounds, tennis, pickle ball and volleyball courts remain closed.

Foot Park: The bathroom project is moving forward and making progress.

Bathroom restoration project is moving forward. The tennis court replacement of the clay courts are on hold for now.

Veteran's Park:

Basketball hoops were taken down due to COVID-19. We will be replacing the entire basketball hoops at a later date. The lighting project made it through part of the budget process approved.

Chet's Pond: We stocked this pond with over 250 rainbow trout.

Parker Park:

We will be moving forward with paving the road way. Our department is working with DPW, town engineer and the First Selectman.

Budget:

Alex provided a detail report about the budget. The subcommittee Ways and Means passed our budget 3-2. Our budget came in at 1.9%.

VI. Asst Directors Report

Dale gave a detailed report about registrations and cancellations due to the effects of COVID-19. We have seen an increase of families calling asking for refunds, as they don't feel comfortable sending their kids to camp. Staff is continuing to work on possible scenarios: modified camp, or a distance camp experience. We continue to provide virtual programs, Toddler Time with Miss Erica, zoom instructional activities, ZooWorld. They continue to seek ways to keep the community engaged. We will be hosting our first paid program: Virtual Personal Training. Our virtual talent show has launched. Last week Chris Lemieux and his group released a parody, May the 4th Be With You. We are highlighting trails that folks can hike on and we continue to host evening Game Nights via Zoom.

VII. Old Business: None

VIII. New Business

Paul addressed the board about a phone call he received regarding windboards/paddleboards similar to the CITI Bike platform of hosting them for folks to rent. Paul asked the gentleman to send more information as it was very vague. Bill has been posting old photos from past Memorial Days on Facebook as the Memorial Day Parade for this year has been cancelled.

Next meeting: June 10 , 2020

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn at 8:00pm

1st Bimmie Herget 2nd Deborah Conklin – Passed 5-0

Submitted by: Dale B Izzo