

**Town of Hamden
Town Center Park Commission
Minutes of a Regular Meeting
Monday, March 22nd, 2021
4:45 pm**

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https://zoom.us/rec/share/gRflTOtmgP3jldpeBX_ji7ugXpB8duAToDvkRhOkfr4mpfK9lZj2DJwYr3YrBZz.U5-8vRUQnToPGupR

****If prompted for a password, enter: Bj7rNd3***

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Minutes

- 1. Call To Order:** Chairman Fitch called the meeting to order at 4:46 pm.
- 2. Attendance:**
 - a. In Attendance: Matthew Fitch, Chairman; Jessica Hazan; Mike D'Andrea;
 - b. Also In Attendance: Christine Huber, Parks and Recreation Commission; Scott Jackson, Finance Director; Liana Paglia, Commission Clerk
 - c. Absent: Gerry Tobin; Victor Mitchell
- 3. Approval Of Past Minutes:** February 22nd, 2021
 - a. Chairman Fitch chose to table the approval of last month's minutes until the April meeting, so that all commissioners could approve them.
- 4. Chairman's Report**
 - a. Chairman Fitch announced that Shakespeare in the Park will be held sometime around July 23rd. Per Chief Merwede, there will be a modified summer concert series, most likely featuring local bands. Chairman Fitch suspects no conflict with these two events. Mr. Donnelly privately relayed his hopes to have a socially distanced food truck festival in the fall. Chairman Fitch believes that the TCP will better provide for a socially distanced farmer's market as well. At present, there were no briefs from Mr. Garretson, however, he expects a brief at the April meeting.
- 5. Old Business- N/A**
- 6. New Business**
 - a. Creation and Implementation of Park Fees- Finance Department
 - i. Chairman Fitch noted that both the TCP and the Parks and Recreation Commission have a shared interest in establishing a fee schedule. Mr. Jackson agreed that it is necessary for both commissions to collaborate on the issue, but he is willing to act as the conduit. He noted that the commissions must create the specific fees. Ms. Huber commented that the P&R commission is currently in the process of analyzing fee data from surrounding towns. She clarified that the intent is to target the non-residents, who use facilities without contributing to the maintenance/janitorial costs. Mr. Jackson agreed with this reasoning, and vowed to compile the true maintenance costs for TCP to form a foundation for creating the fees. Chairman Fitch noted that the main challenge is the weekend usage requests, which could require overtime to properly maintain the facilities. He clarified that the goal is not necessarily to make money, but rather, not to lose

any money. Ms. Huber asked Mr. Jackson if it was possible to send this “true cost” data to both commissions. Mr. Jackson agreed to do so and said he would have Mr. Cesare compile the necessary figures. Chairman Fitch concluded by thanking Mr. Jackson for his time and expressing his hopes for future TCP events to be held later this year.

b. Hamden Fest

i. Because Mr. Donnelly and two commissioners were unable to attend this meeting, the discussion of Hamden Fest has been tabled until the April meeting.

7. **Adjournment:** Chairman Fitch requested a motion to adjourn at 5:11 pm. Ms. Hazan made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. D’Andrea. All were in favor.

Submitted by: Liana Paglia, Commission Clerk