

**CITY OF MIDDLETOWN**  
**Recreation & Community Services Department**  
**100 Riverview Center**  
**Suite 140**  
**Middletown, Connecticut 06457**

**Recreation & Community Services Commission Meeting of March 13, 2014**  
**Held at the Recreation Office at 100 Riverview Center, Suite 140**

Present: David Bauer, Ed Dypa, Sheila Jones, Phil Pessina, Mary Bartolotta, William Wasch, Tom Hutton

Absent: Gordan Adams, Anthony Jaskot, Gerry Winzer, Rick Romano

Staff  
& Students: Deb Stanley, Dhruv Kekare

Call: Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm.

Vote: Deb Stanley stated that a chairperson needed to be elected. Commissioner Jones nominated Commissioner Pessina. Commissioner Bauer moved the motion, Commissioner Dypa seconded. All were in favor. Commissioner Pessina was elected Chairman. Chairman Pessina thanked everyone and acknowledged his service on both the Senior Services and Parks and Recreation Commission in the past.

Public  
Hearing: Steve Ladd from Middletown Little League requested \$4,000 from the Sports Grant Fund. Sports Grants were not on the agenda, as noted by Commissioner Bauer, and therefore there could not be a vote. It was noted that it will be included on the next agenda.

Minutes: 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of newly formed Recreation and Community Services Commission, no previous minutes to approve.

Department  
Report: Deb Stanley stated that the newly formed Recreation and Community Services department was doing well. She is working on a bar code reader system to record participation at Vet's Pool and the new Center. There has also been an increase in health education programs offered by the Rec & Community Services Department. A mention was made as to the success of the Birds of Prey program offered at the Senior Center.

Correspondence: none

Old Business: none

New Business:

- The Commission decided to invite Joe Samolis to the next meeting to discuss the name of the newly renovated Eckersley Hall. Additionally, the Manager of Senior Services position will be discussed.
- Commissioner Bauer requested that department reports (program attendance and municipal agent) be e-mailed to the Commissioners prior to each meeting. Deb Stanley agreed.

- A Mission Statement for the Recreation and Community Services Department was discussed. Commissioner Bartolotta motioned to use Article 3 Section 14-10 as the mission statement. Commissioner Dypa moved the motion. All were in favor.
- Commissioner Dypa motioned to use section Article 3 Section 14-12 for the goals and objectives. Commissioner Bartolotta moved the motion. All were in favor.
- Commissioner Bauer motioned to meet the second Thursday of each month. Commissioner Dypa moved the motion. All were in favor.
- Commissioner Jones motioned to have the meetings begin at 6:00 pm. Commissioner Dypa moved the motion. All were in favor. Commissioner Bauer noted that this change was a “friendly amendment”.
- Chairman Pessina requested that a monthly meeting calendar be prepared for the calendar year. Deb Stanley agreed and it will be distributed at the next meeting.
- Chairman Pessina asked that Complete Streets Chairman, John Hall, be contacted about attending a Rec & Community Services meeting.
- Chairman Pessina also reported that the anticipated completion date for the new center is now October 14, 2014.
- Commissioner Dypa voiced his concerns about the transition from the existing Senior Center to the new center (busing and bus routes).
- Chairman Pessina stated that he would like two members of the Rec & Community Services Commission be part of the hiring process for the Manager of Senior Services.

Miscellaneous:

- Commissioner Bauer asked that members of the Rec & Community Services Commission view the Public Works Commission minutes to keep abreast of park renovations and improvements.

Motion: Commissioner Dypa motioned to adjourn, Commissioner Jones moved the motion. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Jody Krupa  
cc: Mayor Daniel Drew