



February 13, 2023



A regular meeting of the Westfield Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was held on Monday, February 13, 2023, at 6:30 pm. Location: City Hall in room 315 at 59 Court Street, Westfield, MA. Members present by a roll call were: Scott LaBombard, Peter Lurgio, Kenneth Magarian, Vincent Olinski, Douglas Morash, Michael Tirrell and Sara Unger. Member absent: Jane DeBarbieri

At 6:30 pm Chairman LaBombard called the meeting to order asking if anyone was here tonight that was not listed on the agenda and explaining the 15 max minutes of speaking time per person.

Approval of January 9, 2023 minutes Kenneth Magarian moved, seconded by Michael Tirrell
The following roll call vote was taken:

	<u>Y</u>	<u>N</u>
Scott LaBombard	X	
Peter Lurgio	X	
Kenneth Magarian	X	
Vincent Olinski	X	
Douglas Morash	X	
Michael Tirrell	X	
Sara Unger	<u>X</u>	
	7	<u>0</u> Motion passed

Public Participation - Tanley Santaniello, Cesar Adorno, Dena Polverari, Peter Miller, Rick Epstein, Cheryl Crowe, Kathleen Hillman, Chris Dorr, Eric Vanoosteen, Nicole Kane and Matt Pratt

Business or Items for Discussion: Items on the agenda with Chairman LaBombard presiding

1. Kenneth Magarian moved, Michael Tirrell seconded to approve the Westfield FC Soccer permit as presented. (Conversation was made with Tanley Santaniello on how much they spent on fields grass and fertilizer last year \$6,000 to 8,000 and if the commission should allow anyone else she would like them to split the cost and they use the middle school fields due to a shortage of soccer fields. Scott LaBombard thanked her because someone was interested in the fields last month.

The following roll call vote was taken:

	<u>Y</u>	<u>N</u>
Scott LaBombard	X	
Peter Lurgio	X	
Kenneth Magarian	X	
Vincent Olinski	X	
Douglas Morash	X	
Michael Tirrell	X	
Sara Unger	<u>X</u>	
	7	<u>0</u> Motion passed

2. Kenneth Magarian moved, Vincent Olinski seconded to approve Cesar Adorno-Backyard Worship Park Square permit as presented Conversation was made regarding a food truck to sell food. Cesar needs to check with the health dept. he explained the religious event is the same as the last three years.

The following roll call vote was taken:

	<u>Y</u>	<u>N</u>
Scott LaBombard	X	
Peter Lurgio	X	
Kenneth Magarian	X	
Vincent Olinski	X	
Douglas Morash	X	
Michael Tirrell	X	
Sara Unger	<u>X</u>	
	7	— 0 Motion passed

3. Peter Miller at the School Committee represented the Parks & Recreation Commission regarding the Skate park property behind the Westfield Middle School on January 9, 2023, the next meeting is February 6, 2023, as final approval of the January 9 minutes. He presented a site map from Rob Levesque who just did the plans for the Boys and Girls Club property it abuts the sidewalk of an additional 20 ft. at the skate park, he has been working with Jeff Burke on the design plan with the skate park committee and the next step will be how to fund the project. He brought up the next steps that the commission needs to take and provided a memo from the Law dept. for the verbiage of property to Scott LaBombard that the commissions need to vote on and then they can move forward.

4. Chairperson, LaBombard and commission discussion was made on the next steps to take and the commission to accept the land transfer from the School Committee and Scott LaBombard will provide a letter to the Mayor and City Council along with legal documents to consider and assign this property to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

5. Michael Tirrell moved Scott LaBombard seconded to approve and accept the transfer of land for the Skate Park property behind the Westfield Middle School from the School Committee (Skate Park was built in 1991 and the land title was never transferred from the School Committee) and the Chair to send a letter to the Mayor and City Council to consider the land transfer from the School Committee from its January 9, 2023 minutes to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The following roll call vote was taken:

	<u>Y</u>	<u>N</u>
Scott LaBombard	X	
Peter Lurgio	X	
Kenneth Magarian	X	
Vincent Olinski	X	
Douglas Morash	X	
Michael Tirrell	X	
Sara Unger	<u>X</u>	
	7	— 0 Motion passed

6. Peter Miller, Community Development Director went over the \$95,000 for the Hampton Ponds Playground's playscape improvements from the CDBG program. Asking if the commission's interest in a CPA application to refurbish the basketball courts and convert tennis courts into pickleball courts per the neighborhood request at a meeting held last summer. Commission discussion made by Peter Miller with 3 quotes for Hampton Ponds Playground and he also brought up that there is money to request from the CPA application program to fix Municipal basketball court cracks and tennis courts and also CPA funds to convert Hampton Ponds tennis courts into possibly 4 pickleball courts and 2 Tennis courts. He is removing from the Hampton Ponds Playground slide, merry-go-round, and teeter-totter, which is broken and has the funds from quotes one to have it put together by volunteers and one the company puts together. He suggested the commissioners complete the applications and get them into the CPA before the

April meeting coming up soon. (Vincent Olinski thanked Peter Miller for the diligent work he has done for the department and commission)

7. Cheryl Crowe went over the History of how the neighbors and Hampton Ponds association helped raise funds in 2010 to get that playground in place. Cheryl explained she is in touch with Peter Miller on the project as well. She is in support of the Hampton Ponds Playground renovations.

8. Rick Epstein was in support of the Hampton Ponds Playground Equipment renovation and was excited to potentially get grants to add pickleball courts on the north side. The neighborhood will be very pleased if the Hampton Ponds Association has any funds or volunteers that might be willing to help.

9. Cheryl Crowe went over her permit at Park Square renewal same as last year and the artists were thankful and felt welcomed in the community. She says she hears wonderful comments regarding the LBGTOIA+ community artist and people who love living in Westfield in supporting each other. It's a wonderful event and there is no rain date.

10. Vincent Olinski moved, Sara Unger seconded to approve Cheryl Crowe Artworks of Westfield Inc. permit LBGTOIA+ Artist at Park Square and pavilion as presented

	<u>Y</u>	<u>N</u>
Scott LaBombard	X	
Peter Lurgio	X	
Kenneth Magarian	X	
Vincent Olinski	X	
Douglas Morash	X	
Michael Tirrell	X	
Sara Unger	<u>X</u>	- 0
	7.	Motion passed

11. Michael Tirrell moved Douglas Morash seconded to approve 3 renewal permits for Dena Polverari-Westfield Pickleball at Municipal as presented.

The following roll call vote was taken:

	<u>Y</u>	<u>N</u>
Scott LaBombard	X	
Peter Lurgio	X	
Kenneth Magarian	X	
Vincent Olinski	X	
Douglas Morash	X	
Michael Tirrell	X	
Sara Unger	<u>X</u>	<u>0</u>
	7	Motion passed

12. Dena Polverari asked about banners from vendors to be placed at Municipal along the fence. Discussion was made regarding wind that damaged the fence. She went over ballfields have banners and before she asks vendors regarding signs she is asking the commission if they are allowed to. Sara Unger thought the downtown area had an ordinance regarding banners and signs but we can look into that. Michael Tirrell will look into the sign ordinances.

13. Sara Unger went over minutes from the sign committee and the Swords family and children are happy to have a stone with the bronze sign and wanted to keep it a wildlife sanctuary with walking trails as they use to hang out in those woods when they were teenagers and are delighted to have signage placed in her memory. They were thinking of one sign at the back of the school and one sign at the front entrance. She stated the sign committee members are in favor of their requests.

14. Douglas Morash will check with the Swords family on the wording of the bronze plaques.

15. Kathleen Hillman presented a quote for Women’s Temperance Park for letters on the wall, discussion was made about you won’t see lettering driving by and compared that park with the Half Mile Park sign that was funded by Engineering bridge project and Sara Unger said the sign committee already decided to have all signage consistent in all parks, playgrounds and the cost of lettering was extremely high and explained we don’t pay that much for signage. (See sign committee minutes) The sign committee is not in favor of the lettering due to the high cost and this was explained to Kathy Hillman.

16. The commission shall annually in February see. 11-15 organize by electing a Chairperson, Temp -Pro and Secretary February 2023 to January 2024. Vincent Olinski moved, Kenneth Magarian seconded to approve Scott LaBombard as Chairperson.

The following roll call vote was taken

	<u>Y</u>	<u>N</u>
Scott LaBombard	X	
Peter Lurgio	X	
Kenneth Magarian	X	
Vincent Olinski	X	
Douglas Morash	X	
Michael Tirrell	X	
Sara Unger	X	
	7	0

Motion passed

17. Michael Tirrell moved, Scott LaBombard seconded to approve Kenneth Magarian as Pro-Tempore
The following roll call vote was taken

	<u>Y</u>	<u>N</u>
Scott LaBombard	X	
Peter Lurgio	X	
Kenneth Magarian	X	
Vincent Olinski	X	
Douglas Morash	X	
Michael Tirrell	X	
Sara Unger	X	
	7	0

Motion passed

18. Vincent Olinski moved, Sara Unger seconded to approve Douglas Marsh as Secretary of the Commission

The following roll call vote was taken

	<u>Y</u>	<u>N</u>
Scott LaBombard	X	
Peter Lurgio	X	
Kenneth Magarian	X	
Vincent Olinski	X	
Douglas Morash	X	
Michael Tirrell	X	
Sara Unger	X	
	7	0

Motion passed

19. Schedule of bills - Attached

20. Staff Reports - (Attached) Discussion made by Scott Hathaway Fountain at Park Square needs major work and repair it is leaking water he is working with Fran Cain. He will have someone attend next month regarding Parker Memorial Park with 3-D design plans. Jim Blascak had emailed his report.

Adjourn: Michael Tirrell moved, seconded by Peter Lurgio to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion passed

The meeting ended at 8:35 pm

Documents: Agenda, minutes, schedules and reports

The next meeting is on March 13

The review of minutes by Douglas Morash, Secretary of Commission

DM/pg

