

RICHTER PARK AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES
@ Danbury Police Department
Tuesday, August 17, 2021, 6:00 PM

In compliance with Connecticut General Statute § 1-225, these minutes are being provided for informational purposes and are subject to approval of the Richter Park Authority Board of Directors at its next regular meeting.

Chairman John Priola opened the meeting at 6:01 PM.

Members present: John Priola, George Radachowsky, Al Mead, Bob Eberhard, Leroy Diggs, Wendy, Grispin and Pete Siecienski.

Also present: Karen Madaus, Business Manager.

Absent: Judy Griemsmann, David Lajoie, Paul DiNardo, Jonathan Pinto, Rob Dorsch and Felix Bonacci.

Public participation

none

Approve minutes of previous meetings

Mr. Mead made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 20th RPA meeting. Mr. Siecienski seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Correspondence

None.

Arts Association

Our compliments to Rob and his crew for their work on the grounds around the Richter House to improve its appearance so much.

The Arts Board wants to request that the tree near the front of the Richter House by the garage be removed. They believe that its loss of leaves contributes to clogging the gutters on the House. They would appreciate Rob's input on this. Does he believe this tree is a source of problems for the gutters and should it be removed?

They would also appreciate his attention to the broken window in the dining room.

Musicals at Richter

We got eight out of 10 shows of Godspell in, with around 1000 people total. The fundraising cabaret was after Godspell ended and around 79 people showed up. House clean-up for the fall Arts has begun.

MPC-Richter House

No report

FORe

No report Mr. Priola stated that the bricks in the memorial walkway weren't in great shape. Mr. Dorsch had them removed before the parking lot paving started today. He also stated that the RPA should run projects that FORe raises money for. Ms. Grispin made a motion to have the proper mechanism in place to contact the contractor so they know that Richter Park intends to take over the project. Mr. Mead seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Business Manager's Report

We have received \$5,500 of the \$6,000 owed on the fence repayment from the 11/3/2019 incident. Also, TripAdvisor named Richter Park the #1 highest rated golf course in Connecticut.

Head Golf Professional

Mask mandates went into effect on Sunday, August 15th. An email blast was sent out and appropriate signage has been posted. The Danbury Amateur was successful and all of the changes made to try to speed up pace of play were successful. July was good to us, although the first couple of weeks were wet and rainy. We did 6724 rounds, which was very comparable to 2020.

The 10 days in advance policy implemented last month has taken well to the residents. September is geared up to be very busy with a lot of events.

Grounds and Greens

Parking lot paving work is beginning today and will commence for the next several days. We will be actively working on parking and location of cars to expedite the process and minimize delays. We are actively working with the contractor FORe has hired to ensure that the Belgian blocks are properly anchored prior to paving.

The course is still holding strong and doing well. We installed approximately 22,000 square feet of sod on holes 6, 7, and 9 in the rough and it's doing very well other than the large amount of people ignoring the ropes causing us to repair it several times. We will be improving contours and changing drainage in the fall on #12 to sod the entrance to the green and also addressing the drainage in the rear of 7 green. We will complete our version of aeration on Wednesday and be ready for the additional players we will encounter as many area courses pull cores in the coming weeks.

We discussed volunteers at the last meeting and I've spent time discussing how to handle both with my staff and other superintendents around the state. I feel the best and most needed area is filling tee and fairway divots and repairing ball marks.

Financial report

Mr. Priola said to start thinking about greens fees for 2022. Mr. Dorsch is pricing out repairing tee boxes. Mr. Mead made a motion to accept the financial reports and have them placed on file for audit. Mr. Eberhard seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Finance Committee Report

Mr. Diggs said the Committee plans to look at the employee health insurance plans, which will be presented at the RPA election meeting in early September.

Chairman's Comments/Report

Mr. Priola is excited about the paving project. Zoom and face-to-face meetings cannot happen in conjunction with each other, aka "hybrid".

Old business

none.

New business

The Carriage House new lease needs to be executed, with a \$50/month raise in rent if approved. Mr. Eberhard made a motion to renew the Carriage House lease and increase the rent to \$1300/month. Mr. Mead seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

The RPA Elections meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 1st at 6pm. The Nominating Committee will be Bob Eberhard (Chair), Leroy Diggs and Al Mead. The employee health insurance renewal will also be discussed.

Mr. Mead made a motion to adjourn at 6:51pm. Mr. Diggs seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**