



City of Westfield-Parks and Recreation Department  
Commission Meeting  
March 11, 2019

Commissioners Present: Scott LaBombard, Douglas Morash, Vincent Olinski,  
Michael Tirrell and Sara Unger

Commissioners absent: Kenneth Magarian and Robert Veronesi

Staff: David Billips, Director, Fran Cain, Assistant Director, Scott Hathaway,  
Deputy Superintendent and Peggy Goralczyk, Head Clerk

City Councilor: Nicholas Morganelli, Liaison

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. with Pro-Tempore Michael Tirrell presiding. He asked if anyone was recording the meeting and if so to state their name and address. No one responded.

Motion made by Scott LaBombard to accept the minutes of February 11, 2019 motion seconded by Douglas Morash. All in favor.

Motion passed

Public Participation

1. Patty Brose, Christopher DeGray, Matt Collins, Ethan Egerton and Andrea DiRico

City Council Communication

1. Nicholas Morganelli, Liaison- He thanked everyone tonight for bringing the Sadie Knox Playground concerns at the informational meeting held February 27<sup>th</sup>. He was pleased the commissioners met again March 7<sup>th</sup> to help resolve them and hopes that everyone can cooperate in working out a solution with the Westfield Little League and police dept. and the surrounding neighbors, he said he lives right around the corner of Sadie Knox Playground. He asked commissioners to keep him updated and would like to be informed if the police will monitor the area for illegal parking and he is confident that with open communication from everyone involved here tonight everything will work out.
2. Michel Tirrell welcomed Ethan Egerton who was not on the agenda from Prospect Street who is here tonight because he read the agenda regarding a follow up on Sadie Knox Playground. He went over the same issues from his statements he made at the public safety informational

meeting held on February 27. He says putting in a paved parking lot will bring in the “riff raff” and he does not want a road put in next to his fence. He said his fence gets damaged, his goat and dog get harassed and balls go over his fence all the time. He said he is worried about his family and animals safety with all the balls flying over into his yard.

3. David Billips responded to Mr. Egerton he is not taking the road out there is a path that is there on city property.
4. Sara Unger responded to Ethan Egerton, your concerns with Little League were the first time the commissioners have heard from your comments made at the February 23 public safety information meeting. We recently held a sub-committee March 27 with Westfield Little League and we will have a meeting with the police dept. next month. The sub-committee was simply to bring all the concerns forward for a solution and the next steps to be taken. She said as far as the road/ path near your home that has always been there we were looking at safety options for emergency vehicles to get in and out.
5. Michael Tirrell welcomed Andrea DiRico and she said she lives near the condo apartments and during Little League games, someone takes her parking space and parks on her grass under the shaded tree. She called the police twice and they said they can't do anything about it because it is private property that the landlord would have to call a tow truck.
6. Scott LaBombard said if anyone has any further concerns to send him an email that is listed on the city website. He also said that the Westfield Little League representatives are willing to work out a solution and will notify all out of towners that come to a game at Sadie Knox what the proper protocol is regarding parking, safety, and being neighbor friendly to everyone that lives in that neighborhood.
7. Michael Tirrell responded that the meeting with Westfield Little League was very positive and they are willing to help resolve the issues presented at the sub-committee. One was a larger net to catch the balls and possibly use their own funds to put up a higher fence to stop the balls from going over into yards and have supervisors on site to monitor Westfield Little league games. He said we will have another follow up at the next commission meeting scheduled in April.

Business or Items for Discussion:

1. Michael Tirrell welcomed Patty Brose, Assistant Library coordinator who is here tonight on behalf of Daniel Paquette, Athenaeum Director for a permit to use Park Square and the pavilion on Saturday, June 29 from 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. for the summer's annual kick off reading program. She expects about 300 people and there is not a rain date.

Motion made by Douglas Morash to approve the permit at Park Square for the summer reading program for the Westfield Athenaeum presented tonight. Motion seconded by Sara Unger. Vote as follows: Sara, yes, Scott yes, Michael yes, Vincent, yes. Douglas yes. All in favor.

Motion passed

2. Michael Tirrell welcomed Christopher DeGray, Westfield Soccer FC. Who is requesting a renewal permit for Woronocco Soccer fields March 30 – November 17 times 8:00 a.m.-Dusk Monday-Sunday. They expect up to 250 people.

Motion made by Scott LaBombard to approve the permit at the Woronocco Soccer fields presented tonight. Motion seconded by Sara Unger. Vote as follows: Sara, yes, Scott yes, Michael yes, Vincent, yes. Douglas yes. All in favor.

Motion passed

3. Michael Tirrell welcomed Matt Collins, St. Mary's School Superintendent requesting permits to use the following fields for school activities: March 18 – June 14 times 3:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Monday- Friday for softball at Whitney Field, Boardman fields for Lacrosse and Municipal Tennis Courts for the tennis program. He said these are renewals from last year.

Motion made by Scott LaBombard to approve the field permits presented tonight for Whitney, Boardman and Municipal tennis courts date and times listed. Motion seconded by Doug Morash. Vote as follows: Sara, yes, Scott yes, Michael yes, Vincent, yes. Douglas yes. All in favor.

Motion passed

4. David Billips brought up the Agenda style templates emailed from Vincent Olinski for us to use. David says he likes the "Example 2 Agenda style" taking out the "items for action" and add under public participation "City Council Communications", keeping the city seal and logo. Vincent Olinski went over the conversation regarding agenda styles used in other departments.

Motion made by Douglas Morash to approve the Agenda template "example 2" presented tonight. Motion seconded by Scott LaBombard. Vote as follows: Sara, yes, Scott yes, Michael yes, Vincent, yes. Douglas yes. All in favor

Motion passed

5. Sara Unger went over details of the sub-committee meeting held March 7 with Westfield Little League. She said Little League will look into having a supervisor at all games, notify out of town teams the guidelines of parking, speed signs and be neighbor friendly. She went over Kenneth Magarian's report that they discussed at the sub-committee meeting. (See attached). She brought up to unlock all field gates to the ball fields for the general public to use unless we get vandalism. Sara suggested at Sadie Knox during the summer playground program the staff can unlock and lock the field gates each day. This is to keep the dogs out and add more signs "No dogs on the fields". The Westfield Little League supervisor will also keep the police dept. informed of any concerns during games. Westfield Little League will try to cut back on the scheduling to make room for people to arrive and leave in a timely manner and not cause parking problems. She said everything that was brought up at the meeting from the neighbors has been talked about at the February 27 Public Informational meeting.

## Reports

1. Schedule of bills presented by Robert Veronesi and Vincent Olinski designated board members. (Attached)
2. David Billips said he has spoken to the Mayor and Ralph Figy, City Councilor President that the parks and recreation commission needs a Ward 2 commissioner soon.
3. Michel Tirrell said he has spoken to Ralph Figy as well since it is in his ward and hopes they can find someone to fill the Ward 2 position. Commissioners agreed.
3. Jim Blascak, Program Coordinator report (Attached)

Motion made by Douglas Morash to adjourn, motion seconded by Scott LaBombard.

All in favor

Motion passed

The meeting ended 7:25 pm

The next meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2019.

## Documents:

Schedule of bills

Informational public safety meeting report February 27

Notes from Kenneth Magarian and Sara Unger regarding Sadie Knox sub-committee meeting and 2/27.

Reviewed and approved by Vincent Olinski, Secretary of Commission

Comments taken by: Peggy Goralczyk, Head Clerk-Parks and Recreation Dept.