

**Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at 7:00 PM**

**Members of the Voluntown Recreation Commission:**

Mark Simmons, Chairman  
Michael Kalwara, Vice Chair  
Melinda Bryan, Treasurer

Michael Magario  
Belinda Wiese  
Brian Kallio

Jamie Anderson  
Dean Wittwer, Secretary

Absent: None

Guests: Kevin Grindle and Nicole Cleary from Barton & Loguidice (B&L)

**Ascertain a Quorum**

There were 8 of 8 present – served as a quorum.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm.

**Previous Minutes**

Mike K. made a motion to approve the September 6 minutes and Brian seconded.

**Treasurer's Report**

We spent \$1128.03 from our budget.  
There is \$13871.93 remaining.

Constitution budget has \$21,730.07

**Old Business**

- A. B&L made the final presentation of the Gate Street Master Plan
  - a. The Master Plan is designed to provide guidance for improving and upgrading the recreation areas in the Gate Street area, including Constitution Field.
  - b. B&L helped to procure a \$424,000 STEAP (Small Town Economic Assistance Program) grant for the first phase of this project. This will be used to replace the current playscape in the new location.
  - c. There is also a CT Department of Transportation Community Connectivity grant that is been applied for that would include the sidewalks on Gate Street and the walking path on the Constitution Field side of the park.
  - d. The Gate Street Community Committee will continue to meet to make sure that the current project/s are moving forward, and establish which projects are focused on next.
- B. Constitution Field. No updates on existing projects.

## **New Business**

- A. Upcoming Events.
  - a. Spooktopia (in Griswold). We are not planning on doing this.
  - b. Trunk or Treat: Mark will do a trunk for the Rec. Mike K. made a motion to allocate up to \$200 for candy and decorations. Belinda seconded this. All in favor.
  - c. Gingerbread House Competition: we will try to do this next December.
- B. We want to start planning the 2024 Family Fun Day at the next meeting.

## **Correspondence**

- A. Voluntown Baptist Church sent a Field Use Request for July 15-19, 2024 for a Sports Camp.
  - a. Mike K. made a motion to approve this. Melinda seconded. All in favor

## **General Discussion**

There was no general discussion.

## **Adjournment**

Brian motioned to adjourn the meeting, Jamie seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm.

*Respectfully submitted by Dean Wittwer.*