



Youth Commission
Wednesday, April 13th, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.
Youth and Community Services – 51 High Street
Regular Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

- a. Chairman Matthew Gotowala called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
- b. Attendance

Present: Officer Matthew Gotowala, Chairman
Deborah Ahl, Vice Chair
Jonathan Lukasiewicz, Commissioner
Jolene Lusitani, City Council Member
Ramon Peters, Commissioner
Lance Washington, Commissioner

Stephen Bynum, Youth & Community Services Supervisor
Sarah Larson, Deputy Superintendent
Dr. Joshua Medeiros, Superintendent

Absent: Dr. Corey Nagle, Secretary
Ryan Broderick, Commissioner
Makayla Cervantes, Commissioner

2. Acceptance of meeting minutes

- a. **MOTION:** Made by Commissioner Peters to accept the February 9th, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes.
Seconded by: Vice Chair Ahl, all in favor; motion carried.

3. Public Participation

4. Employee/Volunteer Recognition

- a. March:
 - i. Superintendent Medeiros recognized Beth Regan, Morning Deer, from the Mohegan Tribe for March Employee Spotlight for volunteering her time to lead the department in a training on land stewardship and indigenous people.
- b. April:
 - i. Superintendent Medeiros recognized Steven Schriver, Landscape Gardener for his assets to the department leveraging his landscape management design skills for the creation of a variety of garden renovation projects across the park system. Steven worked collaboratively with the Bristol Garden Club on the new Blue Star Memorial Garden being installed this spring at the Veterans Memorial Boulevard. Additionally, his design and contributions to the CT Urban Forestry Climate Change Grant

- application resulted in the department being awarded \$37,000 to remove the tennis courts on Veterans Memorial Boulevard and establish a new urban garden.
- ii. Superintendent Medeiros recognized Craig Vibert, Park Maintainer for assisting residents including, reuniting stolen property to park users, and coordinating with Community Services Coordinator Aubrey Minkler on homeless encampment protocols. Craig continues to enhance his skills and qualifications having recently trained on the back hoe and passed his Certified Pool Operators (CPO) examination and is officially qualified to operate our public pools. Craig also supported the transition to electronic pay stubs and employee self-service software in conjunction with bi-weekly payroll.

5. Youth and Community Services Supervisor's Reports

- a. Youth & Community Services Supervisor Bynum presented the Year to Date Financials
- b. Youth & Community Services Supervisor Bynum discussed the Youth and Community Services Supervisor's Report along with Project Aware updates. Discussion followed.

6. Old Business

- a. By Commissioners: Commissioner Peters provided update on his outreach program at UCONN's Career Center.

7. New Business

- a. Commissioners reviewed the Youth Recognition Awards 2022 nominations. Discussion followed.
MOTION: Made by Vice Chair Ahl to accept all 2022 nominations.
Seconded by: Commissioner Peters, all in favor; motion carried.
- b. Commissioners discussed logistics of Youth Recognition Event – May 11th, 2022.
- c. By Commissioners: None.

8. Adjourn

- a. **MOTION:** Made by Vice Chair Ahl to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m.
Seconded by: City Council Member Lusitani, all in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jazzya Coakley
Recording Secretary
Youth Commission