

Rosenson, Valerie

From: Erik Persson <erikvpersson@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 11:22 AM
To: Rinaldi, Mary Lou; Cerasoli, Frank; Alswanger, Geoff; Mannis, David; Ryan, Kieran; Winterle, Cynthia; Martin, David; Board of Representatives; Rosenson, Valerie
Subject: Save TCR

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: TCR

To Mayor Martin and Honorable Board Members:

We are the family of the SDE hockey association in Sweden (<https://www.svenskalag.se/sdehockey-05>) to which the Stamford Youth Hockey Association (SYHA) has an exchange program and we are writing to ask that you work with Terry Conners Rink (TCR) to keep SYHA's home publicly funded. This year in February the SDE team and all families were in Stamford for a wonderful week of ice hockey and cultural interaction with the SYHA players and families. This is something that I and my family will have as a great memory for the rest of our lives. The hospitality of all SYHA families is something that warms our hearts greatly. Had it not been for the TCR and SYHA this would not have been possible.

TCR has been a publicly funded facility since its inception 48 years ago. It has served not just as a recreational space to enjoy skating, but the home of SYHA, a non-profit organization, where thousands of kids have learned and loved the game of hockey for the past 47 years, starting as young as five. One of the great successes of SYHA is the affordability for families. Hockey is a costly sport and as such, it can be limited to only certain types of bank accounts. Due to the city supporting the facility,, SYHA has been able to make this sport a more accessible activity opening the door to individuals who may not have considered it before. We start with our Tiger Sharks Learn to Play level and recently, we began a program with The Waterside School exposing many underprivileged youngsters to the game of hockey.

Not only has SYHA provided an affordable program, it has also helped cultivate friendship, camaraderie and a sense of family that goes beyond the borders of Stamford, CT and the United States. Since 1983, we have had an exchange program with a Swedish hockey club. Our teen aged players travel to Sweden where they stay in the homes of hockey players and their families. The Swedish players do the same. All involved are exposed to a lifestyle and culture not experienced by typical tourists. The players go to school together, and participate in a variety of activities developing lifelong friendships and an appreciation for each other's culture and points

of view. These are the intangibles that stay with kids well past sports and deep into life. None of these things would be possible without the support of the City of Stamford.

We recognize that the city needs to make extremely difficult decisions when it comes to the budget and funding of programs; and TCR is willing to make adjustments as well. We only ask that the changes be fair to all involved. By cutting the funding of TCR you are essentially putting the rink out of business and shutting down SYHA. That would be devastating to so many families who are dedicated to our program.

Please consider the offer that TCR is making that will adjust costs across the board, but allow for SYHA to continue to serve as an affordable hockey program that continues to thrive.

We thank you for your time and your consideration.

Best regards, Erik Persson

From: [Kristen Stops](#)
To: [Freedman, Richard](#); [Rinaldi, Mary Lou](#); [Cerasoli, Frank](#); [Alswanger, Geoff](#); [Mannis, David](#); [Ryan, Kieran](#); [Winterle, Cynthia](#); [Martin, David](#); [Board of Representatives](#); [Rosenson, Valerie](#)
Subject: Support for Terry Conners Ice Rink
Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 4:56:45 PM

I have attended the previous two special BOF budget meetings and watched the video of April 30 meeting. First of all, I want to say thank you for all the time and effort you each are allocating in your personal lives to create a sound fiscal budget for the City of Stamford. I know it is a difficult task and I appreciate the dedication and services you are giving to Stamford residents.

Secondly, I want to thank you for acknowledging the push by Terry Conners hockey and skating organizations, specifically Southern CT Synchronized Skating (SCSS) and Stamford Youth Hockey, to share our opinions and hopes for the future of the rink. As president of SCSS, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on behalf of all the families.

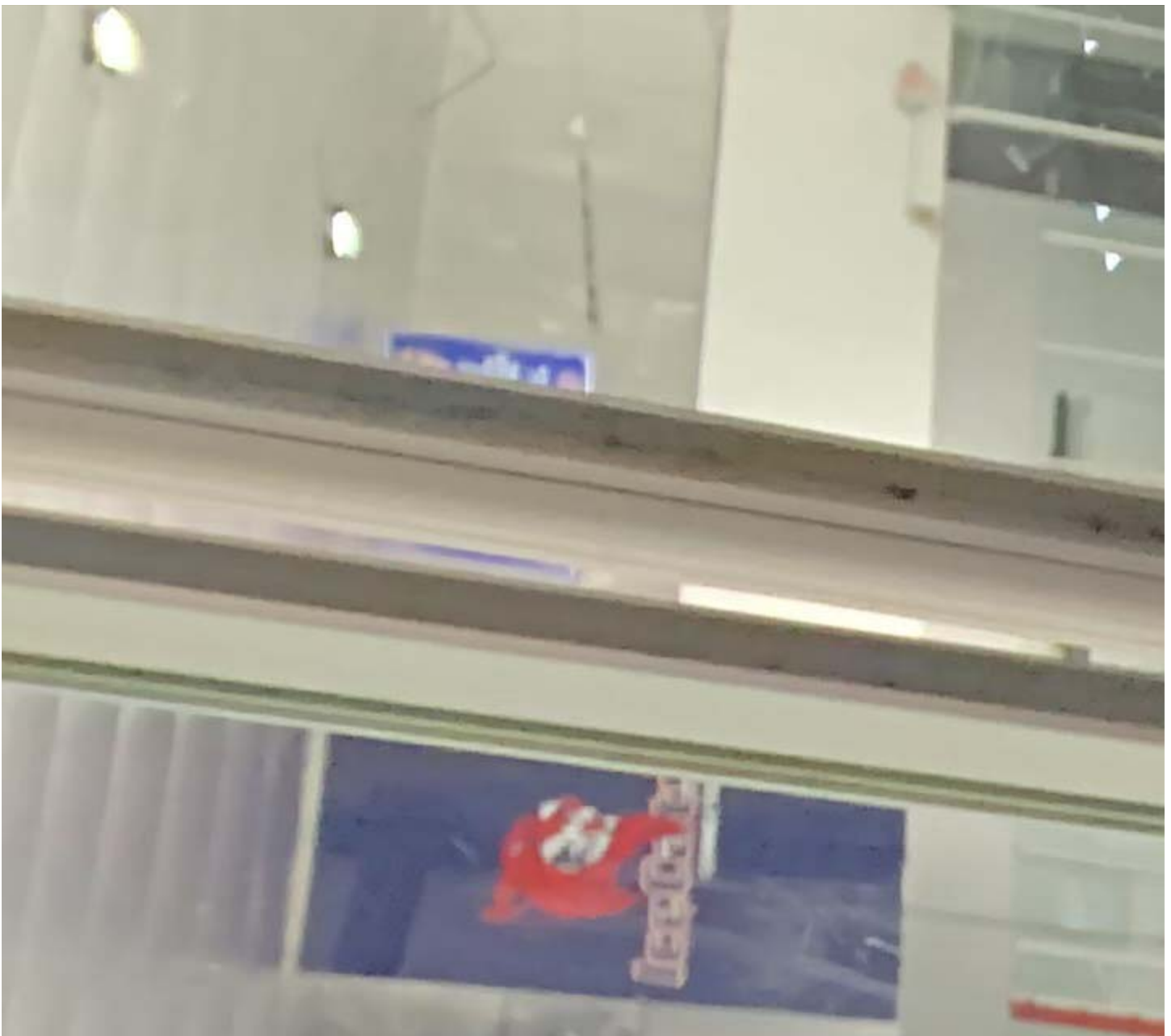
I also want to add that Mr. Alswanger brought up an important point that one goal in leasing Terry Conners Rink should be to continue the established organizations of Terry Conners. I heard that Twin Rink was purchased by wealthy New Canaan families so that their children would have a consistent place to skate. A leaser should not have their own agenda to take over the rink and push out the existing ice rentals. In addition, because Stamford organizations have a majority of the skaters living in Stamford, we are able to get a discount for ice time. We want to be sure that ice rental from a leaser does not drive us beyond what we can afford to pay.

Even though Southern CT Synchronized Skating season missed their final Showcase at Terry Conners and couldn't have on-ice tryouts in March, we have over 40 skaters registered for the 2020-21 season. Our season begins in the summer with early morning clinics, and the skaters are also looking forward to improving their personal skills on the ice and in summer camps. We hope to hear from Terry Conners staff once ice rinks are able to open and share that information with our families.

Sincerely,
Kristen Stops
Southern CT Synchronized Skating Parent Organization President and Stamford resident

Rosenson, Valerie

From: Kris Adler <kris.adler@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 3:40 PM
To: Kris Adler
Cc: Freedman, Richard; Rinaldi, Mary Lou; Cerasoli, Frank; Alswanger, Geoff; Mannis, David; Ryan, Kieran; Winterle, Cynthia; Martin, David; Board of Representatives; Rosenson, Valerie
Subject: Re: SAVE TERRY CONNERS RINK!!!
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged
Categories: TCR



Sent from my iPhone

On May 12, 2020, at 3:36 PM, Kris Adler <kris.adler@yahoo.com> wrote:

Dear Stamford Board of Finance-

Hockey became an important part for f our family life when our youngest became obsessed with the sport dispute the fact that he couldn't skate.

We signed him up and the coaches grew him into a strong skater and player. We loved that he had friends from many schools that he was close with. When it came time to change schools due to learning disabilities his first question was Do they have a hockey team? He played varsity and JV and played a full travel Shark season, skating upwards of 10 sessions a week between games and practices. His transition was eased by the hockey connection.

PLEASE look closely at this picture and notice two things

- 1) they wear face coverings already. many like my son have a full face clear guard The transition for others is cheap and easy.
- 2) they wear gloves!

This sport is uniquely positioned to enable safe play during these COVID times. With modifications to the practices these teams can practice and have some forms of hockey play SAFELY!

Done right this could be done quickly and provide an outlet for families who are looking for safe activities for the kids. this can be done and can be a money maker.

Sent from my iPhone

On May 12, 2020, at 2:51 PM, Lee Bowbeer <bowbeer@gmail.com> wrote:

,

I am writing today to request that you vote to preserve funding for Terry Connors Rink, rather than cut it. I believe you are scheduled to vote on this matter on May 27th.

I am not naive. I know that revenues are down due to coronavirus, and I understand that you all have a difficult job to do in making recommendations for cost savings for the City of Stamford. However, I believe cutting the funding completely is a short-sighted and way of accomplishing this.

I'm sure you have heard and read plenty of testimonials about how important the rink and youth hockey are to Stamford's youth and high school students. Please take 33 seconds and view this video: <https://youtu.be/Dw7JOAeyCsY>.

My son's 11th birthday was this past weekend. Like many birthday parties these days, it was reduced to a drive by of friends from the neighborhood, school, Boy Scouts, and his hockey team. Specifically, his hockey team friends stopped for a song and some stick banging. Afterwards, my son said "That was the best birthday ever!"

My younger son has played hockey at Terry Conners since he was 4 years old, and he has played on Stamford Sharks teams for the past 4 years. My older son played for the Sharks for many years as well, and he is now playing high school hockey. He has also worked in the score box at the rink and he now refs games too. Our family has spent countless hours in the stands. I have served as a manager and scheduler for SYHA teams the past 7 years, and I was a member of the SYHA board for 4 years. ALL of this is because of the rink--the best public rink in the state!

Please keep funding Terry Conners Rink. Generations of hockey players--past, present, and future--will thank you!

Respectfully,

Lee Bowbeer

From: [Katie A](#)
To: [Freedman, Richard](#); [Rinaldi, Mary Lou](#); [Cerasoli, Frank](#); [Alswanger, Geoff](#); [Mannis, David](#); [Ryan, Kieran](#); [Winterle, Cynthia](#); [Martin, David](#); [Board of Representatives](#); [Rosenson, Valerie](#)
Subject: Save Terry Conner's Ice Rink
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 6:29:02 PM

To the Board of Finance,

I am absolutely heart broken to hear of possible budget cuts to Terry Conner's ice rink. This ice rink has been home to my son for the last 4 years and we can't imagine not being there. He has made friends for life and met coaches who are amazing. Not to mention the lasting friendships among the parents. I am also a teacher at Waterside School and have seen first hand the amazing smiles on my student's faces when they were given the opportunity to lace skates up for the first time and try skating. Waterside's relationship with the Stamford Sharks organization has blossomed into a real partnership. Please keep Terry Conner's in full operations.

Sincerely,

Kate Abromovitch

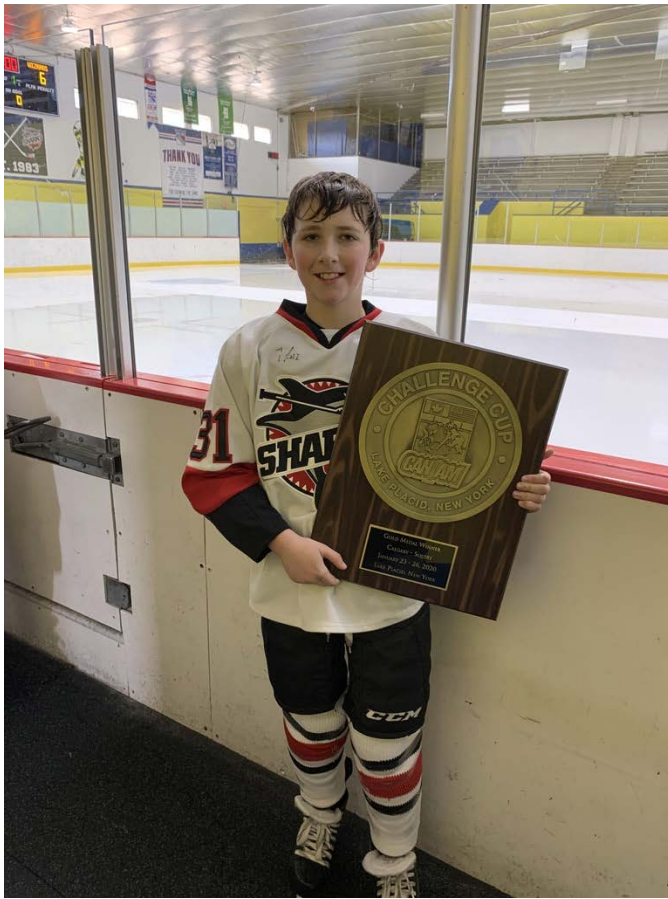
Please see below from my son -

To Whom It May Concern:

Terry Conner's ice rink is the most special ice rink to me and many other children and families. It brings many people together to have fun and play hockey. The coaches that work there are amazing and fun and I wouldn't want to play for a team that they weren't coaching. It has been my home for hockey for 4 years and if I were forced to play for any other team with completely different coaches and players, I wouldn't accept it at all. I only want to play for the Stamford Sharks at Terry Conner's. Being a student at Waterside School, I have seen many children learn how to skate and have seen their actions and happiness following their lessons that were given by the Sharks coaches. Terry Conner's Ice Rink is my only place to play hockey, please do not take it away.

Cole Haft-Abromovitch

#31 Squirt A



Rosenson, Valerie

From: Alexandros Kapasouris <alexandros.kapasouris@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 6:25 PM
To: Freedman, Richard; Rinaldi, Mary Lou; Cerasoli, Frank; Alswanger, Geoff; Mannis, David; Ryan, Kieran; Winterle, Cynthia; Martin, David; Board of Representatives; Rosenson, Valerie
Subject: For your consideration in tonight's meeting [Terry Conners Rink]
Attachments: Kapasouris Family in support of TCR.pdf
Categories: TCR

Please see the attached letter.

Contents are also displayed here:

To Mayor Martin and Honorable Board Members:

We are the family of the Stamford Youth Hockey Association (SYHA) and we are writing to ask that you work with Terry Conners Rink (TCR) to keep our home publicly funded.

TCR has been a publicly funded facility since its inception 48 years ago. It has served not just as a recreational space to enjoy skating, but the home of SYHA, a non-profit organization, where thousands of kids have learned and loved the game of hockey for the past 47 years, starting as young as five. One of the great successes of SYHA is the affordability for families. Hockey is a costly sport and as such, it can be limited to only certain types of bank accounts. Due to the city supporting the facility,, SYHA has been able to make this sport a more accessible activity opening the door to individuals who may not have considered it before. We start with our Tiger Sharks Learn to Play level and recently, we began a program with The Waterside School exposing many underprivileged youngsters to the game of hockey.

Not only has SYHA provided an affordable program, but it has also helped cultivate friendship, camaraderie, and a sense of family that goes beyond the borders of Stamford, CT, and the United States. Since 1983, we have had an exchange program with a Swedish hockey club. Our teenaged players travel to Sweden where they stay in the homes of hockey players and their families. The Swedish players do the same. All involved are exposed to a lifestyle and culture not experienced by typical tourists. The players go to school together and participate in a variety of activities developing lifelong friendships and an appreciation for each other's culture and points of view. These are the intangibles that stay with kids well past sports and deep into life. None of these things would be possible without the support of the City of Stamford.

We recognize that the city needs to make extremely difficult decisions when it comes to the budget and funding of programs, and TCR is willing to make adjustments as well. We only ask that the changes be fair to all involved. By cutting the funding of TCR you are essentially putting the rink out of business and shutting down SYHA. That would be devastating to so many families who are dedicated to our program.

Please consider the offer that TCR is making that will adjust costs across the board but allow for SYHA to continue to serve as an affordable hockey program that continues to thrive.

We thank you for your time and your consideration.

Kind regards,

Alex Kapasouris

To Mayor Martin and Honorable Board Members:

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We thank you for your time and your consideration.

Kind regards,


Alex Kapasouris



From: [Roods](#)
To: [Freedman, Richard](#); [Rinaldi, Mary Lou](#); [Cerasoli, Frank](#); [Alswanger, Geoff](#); [Mannis, David](#); [Ryan, Kieran](#); [Winterle, Cynthia](#); [Martin, David](#); [Board of Representatives](#); [Rosenson, Valerie](#)
Subject: Fwd: Zachary Rood SYHA SINCE WAS 4
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 4:20:09 PM
Attachments: [Video.MOV](#)

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Roods <roodramsfan@aol.com>
Date: May 11, 2020 at 4:17:09 PM EDT
To: rfreedman@stamfordct.gov
Subject: Zachary Rood SYHA SINCE WAS 4

Hello, my name is Patricia Kara Rood, 416 Vine Road, Stamford ct 06905

I am a Stamford girl, born and raised, and I visited and attended hockey games when I went to Westhill High School, and mostly my entire life.

I have a son, Zachary Rood who today as a matter of fact, turns 23 today May 11th.

When he was two years old in 1999, I decided to bring him to Terry Conner's for skating.

I rented him a pair of skates and decided to take him on the ice. I gave him a little push and believe it or not he went across the entire rink without falling down, I was full of joy. When he reached the end of the rink, he turned around and looked at me with excitement and surprise. An instructor came up to me and said I THINK YOU NEED TO PUT HIM on HOCKEY SKATES, and see what he can do. I gave it some thought and went to Instant Replay and purchased a pair of skates, and the rest is history. Zachary received many individual lessons and group lessons from many leaders and workers at Terry Conner's. When he turned four he joined the Tiger Sharks, and proceeded to attend every function at Terry Conner's to do with ice hockey and skating. The next year Zachary became part of the SYHA family.

I cannot express the joy of new families and children starting and being in this wonderful program that we were involved in. TERRY CONNERS IS A STAPLE IN STAMFORD CT. OMG I WOULD NOT EVEN THINK THAT THIS WOULD EVEN BE A THOUGHT TO GET RID OF THE RINK.

My son continued to grow and stayed with SYHA and was at that rink EVERY OTHER DAY OR DAY OF his entire life.

He has skated his entire life, and played for Stamford High School, and became a co-captain in his Senior year of high school. The families, the friendships, the joy, the drives, character, discipline and so many other things that came out of that building, I cannot express on writing. So many children have grown up out of that rink and it would take away a lot from so many children and families.

Zachary went on to the University of Alabama, where he was contacted to play ice hockey for the University. I am enclosing a video where he learned it all from

Terry Conners' Ice Rink. PLEASE DO NOT SHUT TERRY CONNERS DOWN,
PLEASE DO NOT TAKE AWAY A CHILDS DREAM, AND GOALS.
Patricia Kara Rood

Sent from my iPad



Taryn Donovan
Staff Anatomic Pathologist
The Animal Medical Center
510 East 62nd St.
New York, NY 10068
Taryn.Donovan@amcny.org

5/11/20

To Mayor Martin and Honorable Board Members,

We are the family of the Stamford Youth Hockey Association (SYHA) and we are writing to ask that you work with Terry Conners Rink (TCR) to keep our home publicly funded. My entire family, including my husband and two children spend an inordinate amount of time at TCR. When we moved to Stamford, we knew that hockey would be an important part of our lives, so we tried to find an inclusive program with a welcoming community. We found this at TCR, and since then we have devoted countless hours as Sharks parents and volunteer coaches. The wonderful hockey family we find ourselves part of is extremely important to us and our children. Indeed, the experiences we have all had at TCR have changed our lives for the better. I am asking that you to please consider keeping SYHA active and working with them to adjust TCR costs. Any efforts made toward this goal would mean the world to my family and the many other families who have committed so much time in cultivating our children's team sports experience at this wonderful facility. More details about the programs at TCR are below, as well as photos of some of our experiences.

TCR has been a publicly funded facility since its inception 48 years ago. It has served not just as a recreational space to enjoy skating, but the home of SYHA, a non-profit organization, where thousands of kids have learned and loved the game of hockey for the past 47 years, starting as young as five. One of the great successes of SYHA is the affordability for families. Hockey is a costly sport and as such, it can be limited to only certain

types of bank accounts. Due to the city supporting the facility, SYHA has been able to make this sport a more accessible activity opening the door to individuals who may not have considered it before. We start with our Tiger Sharks Learn to Play level and recently, we began a program with The Waterside School exposing many underprivileged youngsters to the game of hockey.

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Please consider the offer that TCR is making that will adjust costs across the board, but allow for SYHA to continue to serve as an affordable hockey program that continues to thrive.

We thank you for your time and your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Taryn', followed by a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line extending to the right.

Taryn Donovan



My daughter as a Tiger shark (center)



Family skate during a pre-season event at TCR



My husband (volunteer coach) tying our son's skates at an away game



Daughter (left) and son (right) playing in a Tiger Sharks end of season game. Our son is older and volunteered to play goaltender for the younger kids. He soon realized that he shouldn't play up to his real skill set, so he "missed" some of their shots. A good learning experience in kindness.

From: [Caitlyn Foster](#)
To: [Mayor's Office](#); [Figueroa, Anabel](#); [Winterle, Cynthia](#); [Sherwood, Nina](#); [Freedman, Richard](#); [Rinaldi, Mary Lou](#); [Cerasoli, Frank](#); [Alswanger, Geoff](#); [Mannis, David](#); [Ryan, Kieran](#); [Martin, David](#); [Board of Representatives](#); [Rosenson, Valerie](#)
Subject: In regards to Terry Conners Rink
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 2:26:20 PM

To whom it may concern,

We are members of the Skating Club of Southern CT, and we are writing in support of the Terry Conners Rink. After hearing that there could possibly be a budget cut and the rink would not reopen until late winter, we sprung into action and created a petition to show how many people really care for this rink. We were able to get almost 4,000 signatures in only three days, which was many more than what we had ever anticipated to get. This petition shows the sheer amount of people, besides us skaters, that can call Terry Conners their second home, and would be devastated to see it close. In the description of the petition, we explain more in depth about why the Terry Conners Rink should stay open and the impact it has on our community. We thank you in advance for your time.

https://www.change.org/p/residents-of-stamford-keeping-terry-conners-rink-open?utm_content=cl_sharecopy_22036951_en-US%3Av10&recruiter=1038877999&recruited_by_id=ddc1eca0-421d-11ea-9950-fba6f89933a5&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink&utm_campaign=psf_combo_share_abi&utm_term=share_petition

From: [Linda Gibson](#)
To: [Freedman, Richard](#); [Rinaldi, Mary Lou](#); [Cerasoli, Frank](#); [Alswanger, Geoff](#); [Mannis, David](#); [Ryan, Kieran](#); [Winterle, Cynthia](#); [Martin, David](#); [Board of Representatives](#); [Rosenson, Valerie](#)
Subject: Save TCR
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 12:54:40 PM

Good afternoon,

During this uncertain time, I don't believe, we should be making such decisions as cutting/closing any buildings without the whole story(ies). TCR isn't just a building, it's a home to more people than you know.

I have lived in Stamford, all my life. I learned to ice skate, attended Friday night skating, took children that I was babysitting skating, High School Hockey games and now my children have grown up at TCR thru skating and hockey as well.

Instead of closing or cutting, let's improve and gain from TCR. Open up and improve open skating/ camps/bring back Friday night skating, parties and make it affordable for all Stamford residence. Host tournaments and bring revenue back to the city, hotels and restaurants.

Terry Connor Rink isn't just a building, with four walls, it's a home where friends, family and strangers meet and holds a lot of history in Stamford.

Please think outside the box during this time. Don't take the easy way, take the way that will make us Stronger.

Thank you for your time and please stay safe.

Sincerely,
The Gibson Family

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lappas, Michelle](#)
To: agraziano@stamfordct.gov; [Morson, Eric](#)
Subject: Plea to Save Youth Services Bureau
Date: Friday, May 08, 2020 9:56:19 AM

I want to thank you all for what you do for the city and let you know that we understand the difficult task you have during these trying times.

What I am asking today is for you all to consider the ramifications of completely closing the Youth Services Bureau and the long term impact that this would have in our community.

The Mayor's Youth Employment Program is entering its 10th summer and has provided 1000 student job between the MYEP and senior internship program. We are considered 'essential grants' from two of our largest funders because 'getting youth paid jobs is essentials to recovery of our economy after 'Covid'.

It is one thing to look at a line in the budget and try and understand the full cost/benefit of the programming. Youth Services over the years has grown to serve over 3,000 students annually and have built strong collaborations with the schools, nonprofits and local businesses that have allowed us to make stronger programming together. Our success has come from our ability to work together to leverage the most for our youth. Our role has never been to duplicate what is being done across the city but fill in gaps in services.

Investment in youth saves communities in long term financial issues by creating a stronger future workforce, invested community members and students who are self-sufficient with the tools to participate and make our community stronger in the future.

We all need to make hard calls in this tough time but I hope you can see a way to save the city's investment in the city of Stamford's youth and let not completely remove the ability to recover in the future.

https://www.change.org/p/stamford-residents-save-stamford-s-youth-services-bureau?utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=custom_url&recruited_by_id=b221d3f0-8ece-11ea-a264-ed0594ae5d55

Regards,

Michelle Lappas
The Program Coordinator
The Mayor's Youth Employment Program

From: [Maren F. Trips](#)
To: [Winterle, Cynthia](#); [Mayor's Office](#); [Figueroa, Anabel](#); [Graziosi, Anzelmo](#); [Morson, Eric](#)
Subject: In favor of Terry Connors
Date: Thursday, May 07, 2020 8:50:23 PM

Good Evening,

I'm writing to show my support for the Terry Connors rink at Cove Island Park. My 3 children all play hockey for the Stamford Sharks. When my son came home from 3rd grade and asked to quit karate to play hockey for the Stamford Sharks, we told him "You don't even know how to ice skate." My then 9 year old son and 5 year old daughter both started skating lessons at TCR summer camp and laced up their hockey skates as soon as they could. They were soon joined on the ice by our youngest daughter. Fast forward 4 years later and I can't imagine our life without the Terry Connors rink and Sharks hockey. We have made friends for life sitting in the stands of Terry Connors (as we are there 4-7 days a week for 7 months of the year for the past 4 years). It is hard to make anyone understand the bond, but it is truly friendships deeper than the casual acquaintance made on a soccer/baseball/lacrosse field. One story to share: Last year, we considered moving out of the area. When we told our kids, their first question was "well if we move, how can we still be Sharks?" They didn't care about leaving their home, neighborhood or school, but they couldn't leave the Sharks. My children are very proud Stamford Sharks which makes them proud to be from Stamford. My family is a Stamford Sharks family and the Stamford Sharks hockey families are our family and we all live at Terry Connors Rink. Please don't take away our hockey family's home.

Thank you for your time,
Maren Tripolitsiotis

From: [Mia Angelina Tripolitsiotis](#)
To: [Mayor's Office](#); [Winterle, Cynthia](#); [Figueroa, Anabel](#); [Graziosi, Anzelmo](#); [Morson, Eric](#)
Subject: Terry Conners
Date: Thursday, May 07, 2020 7:52:22 PM

Hi! my name is Mia Tripolitsiotis. I am 9 years old. The city is trying to close Terry Conners at Cove Island Park! it is important to me because I am a Stamford Shark, I play at Cove Island, and I do sound waters (a camp at the cove). It means a lot to me. When I heard this news I almost cried. So it would be life changing for me if we close Terry Conners. I go there 4-7 days a week! It is already sad enough that I can't see my friends. It would break my heart to close Terry Conners. I hate typing, but I am doing this because I care about Terry Conners. It is a great place to have fun, play hockey, and go ice skating! So be on our side, fight to keep the Terry Conners open! Thanks! -Mia

Name CATHERINE

Color the popcorn words and complete and illustrate the sentence.



I go to the Hockey rink.

From: [Catherine Tripolitsiotis](#)
To: [Mayor's Office](#); [Winterle, Cynthia](#); [Figueroa, Anabel](#); [Graziosi, Anzelmo](#); [Morson, Eric](#)
Subject: In favor of Terry Conners
Date: Thursday, May 07, 2020 8:04:01 PM

Hi, my name is Catherine. I am 6 years old. I love terry conners because I am a tiger shark there. I am so sad because i have only been in terry conners for one year. My sister and brother play there too and i like to watch them play. So, I'm sad. So, please don't close down terry conners. I meet my friends and play at the rink and its really fun. Could you just please keep it open because lots of people like it there?

Sincerely,
Catherine Mary Tripolitsiotis

From: [Linda Valenzano](#)
To: [Morson, Eric](#)
Subject: SAVE TERRY CONNERS RINK AND SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMS
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 9:07:21 AM

PLEASE DO NOT LET THE CITY CUT FUNDING FOR THE TERRY CONNERS RINK AND SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMS. THE RINK IS A CITY TREASURE AND THE CAMPS AND YOUTH SPORTS ARE MORE VITAL THEN EVER FOR OUR YOUTH, ESPECIALLY IN THE WAKE OF THE ABORTED SCHOOL YEAR AND THE SELF ISOLATION. THANK YOU.

LINDA AND RICHARD VALENZANO
158 POND ROAD

Sent from my iPad

To Mayor Martin and Members of the Board of Finance,

I am writing to you in support of Terry Conners Ice Rink and to prevent the extended closure of the facility due to budget cuts. Also, I am asking that you work with Terry Conners Rink to keep it publicly funded.

I am a figure skating instructor at Terry Conners Ice Rink. I'm also the head coach of the Southern Connecticut Synchronized Skating teams (SCSS) and the parent of a Stamford Youth Hockey player. Terry Conners is our 2nd home. It's the place where I first started skating 43 years ago. It's where I grew up and found my passion, which I then turned into a career. It's where I go to work each day, teach the values and skills that I learned there, and then pass those onto many other generations of skaters.

Terry Conners is also where I bring my own children to participate in group lessons, summer camp, and Stamford Youth Hockey. These are wonderful and affordable programs that have been invaluable to children (myself included) for many years. These programs provide affordable opportunities for them to not only learn the love of skating but also to gain life skills, cultivate friendships, learn the value of team work, how to lose, how to win and how to handle adversity. I don't know of a better place than this to teach them how to fall down and get back up in life.

While I do recognize that the city needs to make extremely difficult decisions when it comes to the budget and funding programs especially during this difficult time, I ask that you please take into consideration what Terry Conners Ice Rink means to this community. And, that you consider working with them to adjust costs across the board, and allow Terry Conners Rink and the programs it houses to continue to serve this community at affordable rates.

As a lifelong Stamford resident, a homeowner, a tax payer, a coach, a very concerned parent, and someone who knows personally how much Terry Conners can impact a child's life, I ask you to please consider reassessing the plan to fully cut the Terry Conners budget and instead work with Terry Conners Rink to keep our home publicly funded.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Gina Valenzano-Gomez

From: [Grafstein, Cindy](#)
To: [Martin, David](#)
Cc: [Winterle, Cynthia](#); [Rosenson, Valerie](#); [Freedman, Richard](#); [Quinones, Matt](#)
Subject: FW: Petition for the rink
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 1:28:51 PM

FYI. Terry Connor's Rink Petition – link below.
Sent to me and I am passing on.

Cindy Grafstein
Special Assistant to the Mayor
203 977-4143
cgrafstein@stamfordct.gov

To whom it may concern,

We are members the Skating Club of Southern CT, and we are writing in support of the Terry Connors Rink. After hearing that there could possibly be a budget cut and the rink would not reopen until late winter, we sprung into action and created a petition to show how many people really care for this rink. We were able to get almost 4,000 signatures in only three days, which was many more than what we had ever anticipated to get. This petition shows the sheer amount of people, besides us skaters, that can call Terry Connors their second home, and would be devastated to see it close. In the description of the petition, we explain more in depth about why the Terry Connors Rink should stay open and the impact it has on our community. We thank you in advance for your time.

https://www.change.org/p/residents-of-stamford-keeping-terry-connors-rink-open?utm_content=cl_sharecopy_22036951_en-US%3Av10&recruiter=1038877999&recruited_by_id=ddc1eca0-421d-11ea-9950-fba6f89933a5&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink&utm_campaign=psf_combo_share_abi&utm_term=share_petition

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From: [Grafstein, Cindy](#)
To: [Martin, David](#)
Cc: [Winterle, Cynthia](#); [Rosenson, Valerie](#)
Subject: FW: Terry Connor"s
Date: Monday, May 11, 2020 11:08:33 AM

Someone concerned about Terry Connor's rink must have given my email address as the contact to send letters of support.

Cindy Grafstein
Special Assistant to the Mayor
203 977-4143
cgrafstein@stamfordct.gov

Dear Sir

I am writing this e-mail as a resident of Stamford, the father of two children and a physician.

I hope you and your family are doing fine in these trying times of the Covid 19 and thank you and your team for taking care of the residents of Stamford.

As for the Terry Connor's Ice skating rink, it has been a great place for children and adults for their physical and mental health.

As a member of the front line responders, I am witnessing first hand the negative affect of the lack of social and physical activities in our children as well as in the adults.

The rink has been home for the synchronized Ice skating team that represents Stamford at competitions at other states.

The rink has been a place for the youth hockey as well. It has been helping hundreds of Stamford's families stay in shape.

Besides getting the participants to be good at sports, it helps them develop social skills that will prepare them for their future.

Seeing the young kids on the ice at the early hours of the morning before their school gives me hope for a healthy future generation of responsibility, good discipline, good physical and mental health.

The Terry corners rink has been a great asset in the summer as well. The summer camp has been very effective in getting our kid's to be involved in sports and learning.

The place has been great for parents. Socializing and sharing ideas how to best prepare our kids for a safe, healthy and positive future has been taking place through the rink as well.

If we were to battle obesity and drug use, cutting the budget to the rink is not the answer.

The physical and psychological devastation on the current users of the rink as well as the potential future users is a big price to pay if we were not to keep the place open.

I am available to answer any questions.

Respectfully

Neil Boside, MD

assistant professor of Clinical Medicine, Columbia University

203 637-0057

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