



## ***Parks & Recreation Committee - Board of Representatives***

Jennifer Matheny, Chair

Daniel R. Sandford, Vice Chair

# **Committee Report**

**Date:** Thursday, June 22, 2023  
**Time:** 7:00 p.m.  
**Place:** *This meeting was held remotely.*

The Parks & Recreation Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Matheny and Committee Member Reps. Bewkes, de la Cruz, and Gilbride. Reps. Saftic, Sandford, and Weinberg were excused. Also present was Matt Quinones, Director of Operations; Kevin Murray, Director of Parks & Recreation; Ken Smith, Terry Connors Ice Rink; Janeene Freeman, Mayor's Office; Tricia Martin and Chrysothemi Kouloumentas, Local Landscape & Urban Design; and members of the public.

Chair Matheny called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee Action</b>
1. <a href="#">PR31.023</a>	RESOLUTION; Amending <a href="#">Resolution No. 4216</a> , Approving Fee Schedule for Terry Connors Ice Rink to Amend Non-Resident Ice Rental Rate. 06/07/23 – Submitted by Kevin Murray	<b>Approved 4-0-0</b>

Mr. Smith reviewed this item and there was a brief discussion

This is an increase from \$485 to \$510. This is less than rinks in the surrounding areas charge.

Non-resident ice rental represents five to seven percent of the overall yearly revenue for Terry Connors.

These rentals consist mostly of area teams and organizations that cannot get ice time on their regularly used rinks.

To be considered a residential group, at least 50 percent of membership must consist of Stamford residents.

Mr. Smith is currently working on fall and winter schedules. He first makes the schedule with the local groups that use the ice regularly. Once the residential schedule is set, he will then reach out to other areas with the available rink times.

A motion to approve Item #1 was made, seconded, and approved by a voice vote of 4-0-0 (Reps. Matheny, Bewkes, de la Cruz, and Gilbride in favor).

2. [PR31.024](#)

REVIEW; Discussion and Review of City-wide  
Parks Strategic Plan  
05/10/23 – Submitted by Matt Quinones

**Report Made**

Director Quinones and Ms. Martin reviewed the [attached presentation](#) and there was discussion.

Local is an urban landscape and design firm selected for Stamford's citywide parks strategic plan. The goal is to determine the best practices for providing enhancements and additional investments of the parks system. There will be an emphasis around developing additional funding streams and creative ways that other municipalities have been able to secure and enhance investments.

Community engagement component is very important. There has been an online survey and community meetings.

A parks strategic plan will be in the form of a report with analysis and recommendations. It will be like a guidebook for the decision makers and for future investments.

Local will develop a five-year strategic plan for Stamford, to determine investment priorities, using park analysis and community engagement.

Stamford has over 1,000 acres of available open space. Local will look at the park conditions, typology, and how the parks are maintained and managed.

The public survey will close on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Director Quinones stated the analysis will be done internally by Frank Lagoe and should take one to two weeks. It will then be sent to Local and to the BOR.

Originally the Local report was to be completed by August, but the community engagement piece took longer, so a couple of months have been added to the project.

The strategic plan is the beginning of the process. Then the Stamford has to implement what it can and begin searching for funding sources.

Local's partner James Lima presented several case studies on opportunities that other communities have taken advantage of to enhance parks systems. Stamford is waiting on a second memo from James Lima which will be more tailored to the kinds of funding opportunities that would be best suited for Stamford.

Whether or not Local stays on the project long term depends on funding. Unless the scope is widened, once the report is done Local's involvement will be complete.

More information about the strategic parks plan can be found at <https://www.stamfordct.gov/government/parks-strategic-plan>;

Chair Matheny adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Matheny, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#)