



Parks & Recreation Committee - Board of Representatives

Jennifer Matheny, Chair

Daniel R. Sandford, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Wednesday, July 19, 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. de la Cruz, Gilbride, and Weinberg. Vice Chair Sandford and Rep. Bewkes were excused. Rep. Saftic was absent. Also present was Rep. Summerville; Matt Quinones, Director of Operations; Erin McKenna, Planning Dept.; Chris Dellaselva, Law Dept.; and members of the public.

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

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
2. PR31.026	RESOLUTION; Authorizing the Acceptance of a Gift From Terra Green LLC for Refurbishments/Enhancements to the Seating Located at Cubeta Stadium 07/06/23 – Submitted by Matt Quinones	Approved 4-0-0

Item #2 was taken up out of order.

Director Quinones spoke on this item and there was a brief discussion.

Terra Green approached the Economic Development team about a philanthropic gift to the City of Stamford for a park based project involving ball fields.

The seating in Cubeta Stadium was identified as needing work and was within the amount of funds that Terra Green was offering. The seats were deteriorating and nails were exposed. The company representative walked the site to view the deterioration of the seating.

The project was able to move forward while pursuing this gift by tapping into the game court account, which is a city-wide account for use in game courts and adjacent facilities.

All of the exposed nails have been removed and the entire stadium seating has been power washed and painted. Director Quinones stated that he has been to the stadium and the seating now looks brand new.

No matching funds or public funds are required to accept this gift.

A motion to approve Item #2 was made, seconded, and approved by a unanimous voice vote of 4-0-0 (Reps. Matheny, de la Cruz, Gilbride, and Weinberg in favor).

1. [PR31.025](#)

APPROVAL; Agreement between the City of Stamford and BSC Group, Inc. for a Citywide Parks Invasive Species Plan under RFP No. 899. [Total Contract Cost \$139,100]
06/29/23 – Submitted by Mayor Simmons
07/13/23 – Approved by Board of Finance

Approved 4-0-0

Ms. McKenna spoke on this item and there as discussion.

This was approved in the capital budget process.

The project includes the 32 parks that are at least one acre in size:

- GIS inventory of all invasive species.
- Six week training in the fall and in the spring for staff and volunteers.
- Final product is a five-year management plan.

These invasive species keep people from enjoying much of the park space. They cannot be eradicated completely but we can gain back use of these park spaces by doing some things to help defend against the spread.

Once a five-year management plan is created, the city can decide if this is something that can be maintained internally or if an outside contractor will be needed.

Pesticides will not be used per the Stamford ordinance prohibiting use on public lands. Some chemicals might be used minimally with permission of Director of Operations.

Rep. Weinberg suggested seeking out volunteers from Bartlett Arboretum and UConn for the training process.

The consultants will try to get as much of the GIS inventory done before the fall.

Right now there is no specific plan regarding the smaller parks. There is an expectation that what is learned can be applied to the smaller parks.

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

Chair Matheny adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Matheny, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).