

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
APPROVED MINUTES - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2022  
SPECIAL MEETING  
VIA INTERNET & CONFERENCE CALL  
7:00 P.M.**

***Sustainable Playing Fields & Playgrounds***

**JOIN ZOOM MEETING**  
**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81348982806>**

**Meeting ID: 813 4898 2806**  
**Passcode: 712796**

**Web & Phone Meeting Instructions:**

- *If your computer/smartphone has mic and speaker then:  
Type in, paste or click the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81348982806>  
If not, then **Call-in** using the **phone number, Meeting ID & Passcode** provided above.*
- *Sign-up for Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting updates by emailing  
[lcapp@stamfordct.gov](mailto:lcapp@stamfordct.gov).*

**Web Meeting Ground Rules:**

- *The meeting shall be recorded and the video shall be posted on the City of Stamford website  
[http://cityofstamford.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view\\_id=9](http://cityofstamford.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=9)*
- *Only Commission Members and invited attendees will be allowed to participate in the discussion.*
- *The Parks & Recreation Commission shall moderate the audio for attendees.*
- *Attendees shall be on mute and will be unmuted when called to speak by the Commission members or a Panelist.*
- *If you are dialing in through the phone, use \*9 to raise your hand and \*6 to unmute if called upon to speak.*
- *The Chat function will be turned off.*

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A Special Meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission was held on Thursday, October 6, 2022 via the Internet on Zoom.

In attendance were:

Commissioners: Paul Newman, Chair  
Melanie Hollas, Vice Chair  
Angela Adetola  
Jessica Katz  
Michael Tedder

Staff: Matthew Quiñones, Director of Operations  
Kevin Murray, Operations Manager, Parks & Facilities  
Lesley Capp, Assistant - Parks & Recreation Commission

Mr. Newman called the Special Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and introduced the Commission Members and staff present.

Mr. Newman then explained the meeting would begin with the presentations from each panelist after which, would be a question & answer period where the Commissioners and invited guests and their designees would be allowed to ask questions of the panelists on the materials presented.

**INVITED ATTENDEES:**

- Matthew Quinones, City of Stamford Director of Operations and/or his designee(s).
- Cindy Grafstein, Stamford Public Schools, Board of Education Joint Facilities Officer and/or her designee(s).

**PRESENTATION:**

This Special Meeting of the Stamford Parks & Recreation Commission will present opinions from the following individuals on the use of artificial turf for athletic fields vs. natural grass. We will also hear opinions from the presenters on the use of poured-in-place (PIP) rubber playground surfaces vs. engineered wood fiber.

- Dr. Kyla Bennett, Director of Science Policy at Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER).
- Dr. Sarah Evans, Assistant Professor in the Department of Environmental Medicine & Public Health and a member of the Institute for Exposomic Research at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.
- Ian Lacy, Lead Project Advisor for Tom Irwin Advisors - Consultants on the installation of Artificial Turf and/or Natural Grass for athletic fields.

After an extensive discussion, Mr. Newman thanked everyone for attending. Mr. Newman also thanked the panelists for taking time to present to the Commission and Ms. Hollas, Ms. Katz and Ms. Capp for all their work on setting up the meeting.

Mr. Newman then called for a motion to adjourn the Special Meeting.

Ms. Hollas made a motion to adjourn the Special Meeting; seconded by Ms. Katz and the vote was carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mr. Newman adjourned the meeting at 9:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lesley Capp  
October 11, 2022

*These proceedings were recorded on video and are available for review on the City of Stamford website at:*  
[http://cityofstamford.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view\\_is=9](http://cityofstamford.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_is=9)