

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF A RECREATION AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES COMMISSION**

**Statutory Reference:** Conn. Gen. Stat. § 7-148 (c)(6)(A)(i)

**Purpose:** To establish, maintain and conduct public and recreational areas and activities as are authorized by the General Statutes of Connecticut.

**Definitions:** “Cause” is malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance.

“Malfeasance” is any intentionally illegal act or knowingly exceeding one’s authority for improper (illegal or prohibited) reasons.

“Misfeasance” is committing a wrong or error by mistake, negligence or inadvertence but without bad intent or violation of the law.

“Nonfeasance” is continued and successive failure to perform one’s duties or obligations in their position on this board.

**Exceptions:** None.

**Ordinance Text:** There is hereby created a Recreation and Community Activities Commission of the Town of Hampton which shall establish, maintain and conduct such public and recreational areas and activities as are authorized by the General Statutes of Connecticut with the exclusion of activities related to youth sports as this is under the auspices of the Youth Sports Committee.

The Commission is authorized to request and receive appropriations from the Town, to receive private donations and to expend such funds for the purposes for which it was created. The Commission shall submit to the Board of Selectmen not later than March 15 of each year a report of its activities for the preceding year and a budget for the ensuing year.

The Commission shall consist of nine (9) regular members and four (4) alternates who shall be electors of the Town. Alternates shall serve as full members when properly seated and at no time shall a vacancy in regular membership(s) prevent the conduct of business as long as a majority of filled and/or appropriately seated membership is maintained.

The members and alternates shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen to serve for terms of two (2) to four (4) years: Five (5) for four (4) years, two (2) for three (3) years, and two (2) for two (2) years, so that all terms do not expire in the same year. Alternate members shall, when seated by a majority vote of the commission members at a meeting where required, have all the powers and duties of a regular member of the commission for the meeting seated.

The members of the Commission shall elect a chairman and a Secretary and may elect other positions (Vice Chair, Treasurer) as needed. Secretary and Treasurer may be combined. All officers shall be appointed/elected by majority vote of the commission members and their duties formally documented by act of the commission.] No member of the Commission shall receive any compensation for his services as a member.

This ordinance establishes that any member of the Commission may be removed from their position on the Commission for good cause, defined as malfeasance, misfeasance or nonfeasance in their duties on the Commission.

Following a written warning to the member regarding possible removal, the Commission may by majority vote of its members, hold a hearing on the recommendation for removal of a Commission member. The Commission member whose removal is being sought is not entitled to vote for or against a hearing for recommendation of their removal. The Commission member must then be notified in writing at least two (2) weeks prior to a second meeting where a vote will be held for the purpose of recommending expulsion of the Commission member. The second hearing, where a removal recommendation vote will take place, will be done by majority vote of the Commission members. The Commission member whose removal is being sought is not entitled to vote for or against their Recommendation for removal from the Commission.

The Commission shall hold at least four (4) regular meetings per year and shall keep minutes and records as required by law. The commission may establish committees to provide recommendations to the commission and complete specified commission business if so charged. Non commission members may serve on such subcommittees. The Commission may collaborate with other commissions and committees with shared interests and is encouraged to hold periodic meetings with said commissions and committees where overlaps are identified.

**Fees:** N/A.

**Penalties:** N/A.

**Cross References:** N/A.

**Date approved:** Original Ordinance approved at Town Meeting May 19, 1981.

Amended ordinance approved at Town Meeting May 29, 2008, Town Meeting, November 17, 2008.

**Date Published:**

**Effective Date:**

**History:**

**1981:** Ordinance originated.

**2008:** May 2008 Town Meeting:

- Reformatted to template.
- Amended to expand scope to include community activities and expand membership from 5 to 11.

**November 2008:**

Section 4 changed from: The members shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen to serve for terms of four years. Some new appointments may be two years so that no more than half the members terms expire in the same year.

to:

The members shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen to serve for terms of two to four years. New appointments and reappointments may be staggered so that all terms do not expire in the same year.