

November 3, 2003

Present: Sheila Anson, Joe Fredlund, Ray Reich, C. J. Kersten, Tim Cook, Lou Magnoli, Lisa Easter, Mary Anne Greene-Secretary.

Minutes: Motion: To accept the minutes of the September 8, 2003 meeting as presented by Ray Reich, seconded by C. J. Kersten and unanimously approved.

Motion: To let the minutes reflect there was a consensus to accept the "notes" (there was not a quorum present) of the October 6, 2003 meeting as presented by Ray Reich, seconded by Joe Fredlund and unanimously approved.

I. OLD BUSINESS:

a. Beach and Boat Launch: Ray Reich reported that meetings have continued with the State Department of Environmental Protection, Attorney Mike Chichetti (representing the Lake Waramaug Association) the selectmen from the towns of Washington, Warren and Kent. A Memorandum of Understanding has been drafted. Ray explained there was still a way to go on the boat launch issue - explaining that even if M of U is signed, plans still need to go Inland Wetlands, reviewed by the Crops of Engineers, etc. It was suggested that two of the P&R commissioners meet with Elaine, Ray and Town attorney David Miles to discuss further.

b. Riverwalk/Pavilion Project: Sheila and Lisa Easter reported there has been a great response to the fundraising letter sent to the townspeople with a great cross section of residents already donating. At present \$18,645 has been received. It was decided that Sheila and Joe Fredlund and Tim Cook would again meet with Linc Cornell who has been very helpful with fundraising efforts to give him an update. The Commissioners agreed to send thank you notes to everyone who donates - it will be in a card format with the "outhouse" logo on it. Tim Cook has started the paperwork for the necessary permit applications. The Building & Property Commission will be contacted to get their input re: a clerk of the works, help with the bidding process, etc.

c. Parent Council/Youth Association: Nothing to report.

d. Town Garage Property/Plan of Development: Nothing to report.

e. Basketball/SBA: Joe Fredlund reported that the tryout for 7th and 8th grade boys and girls are underway. The "Shepaug Basketball Association" is working well. By-laws are completed and a copy will be given to Parks and Recreation Commissions of each of the three towns in the region.

f. Dick Ayer Field Backstop: Motion: To spend \$5382 from the Recreation Commissions Field Upkeep and Little League accounts to replace the backstop at the Dick Ayer Field by Joe Fredlund, seconded by C. J. Kersten and unanimously approved. Let the minutes reflect that the expenditure of these monies had been discussed at earlier meetings however the actual motion and vote had not been recorded. Joe reported that work is progressing very nicely on this project and noted the Town Highway crew was extremely helpful in taking down the old backstop and poles. Tim Cook will take care of a "thank you" for the highway department.

g. Holiday in the Depot: Lisa Easter reported all is going along smoothly for this event. Santa needs to be contacted and she will take care of this. It was decided to ask the Shepaug Boys Cross Country team to light the tree this year as they recently won the State Championship. Sheila will contact their coach - Tom Scorola.

h. Purchase of windshield and top for gator: Lisa Easter reported she has received a quote of \$441.10 for the windshield and top. **Motion:** To approve the expenditure of \$441.10 (plus installation

and shipping if applicable) to purchase the windshield and top for the gator from West End Power Equipment by Tim Cook, seconded by C. J. Kersten and unanimously approved.

II. COORDINATORS REPORT: Lisa Easter reported that Kezia Hearn's After School Arts and Crafts class had a very good response - the participants were making Native American shields. She is beginning plans for next month's class. Swim classes for the fall are winding down. Basketball sign up sheets for the lower grades will be going out the end of this week. Lisa and Sheila asked that the minutes reflect the commission's gratitude to Maureen VanMoffaert for the fantastic job she continues to do with the swim classes - they are always very popular and successful. A "thank you" was discussed for "Mo" as was one for Tara Cherniske who retired as the Commission's secretary. **Motion:** To give both Mo and Tara a gift certificate (\$100 each) to G.W. Tavern to show the Commission's appreciation and gratitude for "jobs well done" by Sheila Anson, seconded by Joe Fredlund and unanimously approved. The 4th of July road race trophies will also be engraved with the winner's names.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Open Skate at the Gunnery: Lisa reported that Open Skates are scheduled for November 22 and December 27 at the Gunnery rink from 3:00p.m.-5:00p.m.

b. Trip to Canada: Reggie Breeckner has sent information to the Commission re: a trip to Canada over the April school break. This would be for all ages (families) and will only happen if there are enough sign ups. As it is not a school sponsored trip, Reggie is asking for the "support" of the Parks and Recreation Commissions of the three towns in the Region. She is not requesting any money from the commission. The support of the commission would be for advertising, etc. **Motion:** As the Commission agreed to do this last year, it would again approve to "support" the trip after checking with the town's attorney, David Miles, re: our liability, if he found no reason not to by Tim Cook, seconded by C. J. Kersten and unanimously approved.

c. Ti-Chi: At the suggestion of Papa Joe Martin, a young woman has inquired about giving lessons to children. It was decided to invite her to the commission's next meeting for her to present her ideas.

d. Ball Field Fences: Tim Cook reported he had met with Don Banks re: replacing the gate in front of the pavilion - it would be a 12 foot wooden gate and would cost approximately \$700. **Motion:** To approve the expenditure of approximately \$700 (not to exceed \$800) to Banks Fence Company to replace the gate at the pavilion by Joe Fredlund, seconded by Lou Magnoli and unanimously approved. Tim also reported on the fence at the Joe Martin Field which needs to be repaired by the dug out and also the fencing on Field #3 needs replacing. It was decided to have Tim get a price on these repairs and/or replacements before a decision on the expenditure could be made. Tim also reported he is working on a fund raising effort for an indoor batting cage and other possible work on the fields. It was suggested he or someone on that committee approach Region #12 and explain that any additional monies could hopefully be put in their budget request as our Parks and Rec. Commission has incurred the expense of the Dick Ayer Backstop, etc.

e. Thank you Elaine Luckey: Ray Reich will write a thank you to Elaine Luckey (outgoing First Selectman) for the fine job she has done and for her support of the work of this commission.

IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Sheila reported on the reception for Steve Wright that was held in his honor as he stepped down as Chief of the Ambulance Association after many years of service. A recognition and "thank you" will be forthcoming from this commission in the form of a VIP pass to the fireworks. Congratulations to the Boys Cross Country team on winning the State Championship and to the Girl's team for doing as well as they did (placed 4th in the state) - and particularly Christina Welles who won the Class S championship! Congratulations to Gunnery faculty member Ed Small who finished in the top 4% of the NYC Marathon. Congratulations to the Field Hockey team who again won

the Berkshire Championships and who will be starting the state games tomorrow.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40p.m.

NEXT MEETING: December 8, 2003, 7:00p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene
Secretary