

February 13, 2006

Present: Chairman Sheila Anson, Ray Reich, Joan Gauthey, Joe Fredlund, C.J. Kersten, Holly Haas, Lou Magnoli, Coordinator Lisa Easter and Clerk Mary Anne Greene.

Call to Order: Chairman Anson called the meeting to order at 7:05p.m.

Minutes: Motion: To approve the minutes of the January 9, 2006 meeting as presented. By Ray Reich, seconded by Holly Haas and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **River Walk Pavilion:** Larry Cable reported there was some very minor vandalism (paint) on one side of the pavilion - easy to repair. Lisa Easter reported the sign is completed - it has not yet been installed. Will hold payment until the sign is "seen" and approved by commission members. The money that has been given by Louise King in memory of her friend will be specifically used at River Walk - possibly for a pet waste station and/or tree. Lisa will also have signs made up regarding leashing dogs and cleaning up after them. There was discussion as to how these can be enforced and it was decided to have Larry Cable meet with Cindy Brissett, Animal Control Officer. Lisa also suggested a sub-committee be formed to come up with rules and regulations, charges for rental of the building and equipment, etc. Joe Fredlund, Joan Gauthey, Lou Magnoli and Sheila Anson will make up this committee and will also review the rules and regulations established for the rental of the bowling alley.
- **Beach/Boat Launch:** Ray Reich had nothing to report. Lisa reported she has received a final report from Hank Vallely, Boat Launch Director and Beach Caretaker. All in all a good season in 2005. Ray Reich, Holly Haas, Joan Gauthey and Lisa all met to develop a job description and qualifications necessary for the Beach Director position.
- **New Year's Eve:** Linda Spak has submitted a report with a request that half of the profit of \$829.69 go to the Town Hall "Soldier's Fund" and the other half towards a Summer Concert fund. **Motion:** To accept Linda's above mentioned suggestion. By Joan Gauthey, seconded by Holly Haas and unanimously approved.
- **Basketball:** Lisa reported the Hot Shot Contest went very well despite only 11 participants. Two of the girls went on to win a county competition and will now go to the state competition. Tim Cook submitted a written report stating there will be a spaghetti supper on Saturday, February 25th from 5:00-7:00 at Legion Hall; the season is in full swing and there is "a lot of fun and learning going on!" Sheila asked that the notes reflect congratulations to the Shepaug Girl's Varsity Basketball team on their success this season and felt that this success is due in great measure to the youth basketball program in which many of today's players participated.
- **Master Plan:** Tim submitted his priorities in his written report as being a kitchen at the new pavilion; work on the ball fields - combination baseball and soccer ; and to install lights at the fields (one field a year). There was then discussion as to submission of the commission's capital budget requests for next fiscal year which are due "asap". If the commission feels installation of a kitchen at the pavilion is a high priority, actual price costs will need to be worked up. C.J. Kersten will contact Harry Wyant regarding the cost of enlarging the septic system. Lou Magnoli also suggested contacting specific organizations to donate monies for specific items. Lisa will contact other towns who have kitchen facilities in their pavilions and ask them about their fees, inspections needed if the kitchen is to be used, etc.

- **Reiki-Yoga:** Sheila reported that Doug Greene's Wednesday 20-minute lunch time reiki yoga class is going very well - average of 10 participants per week. The program may move outside in nicer weather depending on Doug's availability and participant's thoughts.
- **Ace Baseball School:** Lisa has received a report from Art Crabtree regarding the 2005 program which had a total of 95 students.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Lisa reported:

- **Spring swim lessons:** tentative schedule has been done.
- **Bus Trips:** Yankees vs. Angels on 8/13/06 and Red Sox vs. Baltimore on 10/1/06.
- **After School Ski:** great time on 1/30 - 29 skiers, 1/23 and 2/13 trips cancelled due to Region #12 snow days.
- **Hot Shot Contest:** see Basketball report. Local winners: Kyle Goldstein and Katie DeWitte, Brian Hungerford and Melinda Fragomeli. Katie and Melinda went on to win the county competition for their age groups and now go to states.
- **Gift to Judea Nursery School:** Parks and Rec has donated a certificate for one child to attend summer recreation camp and a certificate for one child for one set of summer swim lessons for their fundraising auction.
- **Playground Committee:** Lisa will be meeting with Bill Hawley of the New Preston Congregational Church this Friday to discuss the New Preston playground. There was discussion and concern as to the placement of the playground near or on the Nick Platt Field with some commissioners feeling very strongly that it should not take away any area from the playing field. Lisa would also like to incorporate new equipment for the River Walk Tot Lot and beach. She would like to do this as one project. Lisa has had conversations with First Selectman Dick Sears regarding funding and his priorities on this subject. It was suggested to invite him to the March meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Little League Baseball:** Tim Cook's written report informed the commission that registration is going on in the month of February; minor leagues are being regionalized due to low enrollment numbers from each town. He will report further on this next month.
- **Planning Commission - Depot Study:** Sheila reported that Tim Cook has had discussion with Addie Roberts, Planning Commission Chairman. She will have Tim report more next month.
- **Washington Club plantings:** There are monies available from the Garden Club for plantings at the new pavilion and/or River Walk. Joe Fredlund offered to speak with Addie Roberts of the Garden Club about this - would like to accept their generous offer to get plantings around the entrance to the pavilion.
- **4th of July t-shirts:** Ray Reich looking for someone to design this year's t-shirt. Sheila suggested and offered to speak with Wendell Minor who is coming out with a new book that will be dedicated to Major Stephen Reich.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Sheila reported:

- **School Renovation/Consolidation:** referendum on choices coming up in March 7th.
- **Elevator Dedication:** Town Hall improvements and upgrades celebration and dedication on 2/24 at 2:00p.m. All Commissioners are invited to attend.

- **Happy 70th Birthday John Allen!**
- **Congratulations to David Easter** on his promotion to Captain in the Danbury Fire Department.
- **Best Wishes and thoughts to Dick Ayer** on his medical leave and retirement effective June 2006.
- **Good luck to Lyndsey Jacobelis of Roxbury** on her Olympic snowboarding competition on Friday 2/17.
- **Yikes-no shorts on C.J. tonight** - must be chilly!

Adjournment: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:25p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, March 13, 2006, 7:00p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Clerk