

**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**  
**Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Minutes**  
**April 10, 2023**

**Minutes are subject to the approval of the Parks and Recreation Commission.**

**Present:** Chairman C.J. Kersten, Vice-Chairman Sheila Anson, Commissioners Greg Kraft, Joanne Kelly, Tim Cook, Joe Fredlund; Community Services Director Jenn Pote; Clerk Mary Anne Greene.

**Call to Order:** Chairman C.J. Kersten called the meeting to order at 5:35p.m.

Sheila Anson, on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Commission, expressed pride on the Shepaug Basketball team's participation in the State finals! Also, congratulations to the UCONN Huskies and the Quinnipiac Bobcats, respectively, for winning the National Championships in basketball and ice hockey.

**Approval of Minutes:**

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the January 23<sup>rd</sup>, February 13<sup>th</sup> and March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meetings of the Parks and Recreation Commission. By Sheila Anson, seconded by Greg Kraft and unanimously approved.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Election of Officers: Motion:** To keep the current slate of Officers: C.J. Kersten as Chairman and Sheila Anson as Vice-Chairman. By Greg Kraft, seconded by Joanne Kelly and unanimously approve.
- **Website:** Jenn Pote reported the new Parks and Rec website is up and running. There have been a few kinks. Information and registration can currently be found for Summer Recreation, Field Hockey and Swim. More information and registrations will be on soon.
- **July 4<sup>th</sup> Freedom Run:** Due to the reconstruction of the Tunnel Road Bridge in Steep Rock, this year's July 4<sup>th</sup> Freedom Run cannot be held at Steep Rock. Discussion followed re: alternative sites: River Road, Macricostas Preserve, Bee Brook Road, Shepaug-Nichols Hill Rd-Painter Ridge-Davenport Road, Shepaug campus. Sheila Anson offered to speak with Shepaug re: permission to use the cross-country route and to Trooper Joe Hamel re: what would be required police-wise if held on any of the Town's roads.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- **WMS Camp-Town Beach:** First Selectman Jim Brinton checked with Town Attorney, Randy DiBella, re: liability issues allowing Montessori campers to use the Town Beach as part of their program – there are none. The Commissioners agreed to allow no more than 15 campers once a week for four weeks.
- **Summer Camp:** Staffing is in place and registrations have begun.
- **WAA Summer Solstice – July 22, 2023:** Jenn Pote met with Jim Brinton to discuss any concerns he may have with the Art Association using the Pavilion for its Summer Solstice celebration. He asked that the tent for the event be taken down and mats covering wiring be removed no later than the day following. The Art Association will be responsible for renting port-a-lets and a generator. They will also be required to pay a \$500 use fee and a \$500 deposit (to cover the

four days required for set up and the event at \$125 per day. Jenn will relay this to the Art Association.

- **Non-Resident Beach Fee:** Instead of beach passes, beach goers will now be required to purchase a season parking pass. There is now a State law that prohibits Towns from not allowing non-residents to use their beaches. Following discussion on what should be charged for non-residents vs. residents, the Commissioners agreed non-residents should be charged more. Washington Emergency Services personnel and Seniors will not be charged for their season pass. **Motion:** To set the fee for a season pass for Washington residents at \$30. The fee for a day pass for non-residents will be \$60 with no option for a season pass. By Greg Kraft, seconded by Sheila Anson and unanimously approved.

**Next Meeting:** May 8, 2023.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:37p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Anne Greene  
Clerk