

June 15, 2009

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

Present:

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

Call to Order:

Chairman Anson called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. and began the meeting by congratulating Lou Magnoli on his receipt of the Major Stephen Reich Award for Exceptional Citizenship!

Minutes:

* Motion: To approve the minutes of the May 11, 2009 Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. By Holly Haas, seconded by Joan Gauthey and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

*** River Walk Park:**

Tonight's meeting of the Commission was to be held at the Pavilion but was moved to the Town Hall due to it's being used by the Shepaug Baseball Team - congratulations on a great season! :). The Pavilion and Park area continue to be used on a very regular basis. Sheila reported that a problem with the outlets had been reported – this will be referred to Eagle Electric, the stovetop needs to be cleaned – Lou will look into what to use. The Commissioners and Town Hall have received numerous compliments on the condition of the Ted Alex Field – thank you Gary! (Or is it the rain?!) The exhaust fan has been installed over the stove in the kitchen – Eagle will hook up tomorrow. Lisa will contact M&M Tennis Courts to look at the cracks in the tennis courts by the Primary School. She will also check with the school to see who maintains their courts. Movie Night(s) will be discussed again at the next meeting.

*** Baseball:**

Tim Cook reported that there were Little League semi-finals yesterday and finals will be here tomorrow night with Roxbury and Bethlehem teams. There are two Babe Ruth teams and Connie Mack begins Wednesday.

*** Fireworks:**

Ray Reich reported that he has met with Trooper Steve Sordi and Facilities Manager for Region #12 Paul Cullen regarding the police coverage and shooting and parking areas. The cost for police coverage may be increased over last year due to it's being billed through the State. There is a new "shooter" who will review the show with Ray and Don from Telstar prior to the 4th. The rain date is July 5th. There are still a limited number of passes left for sale. The annual Stephen Reich Freedom Run will take place on the 4th at 9:00a.m. in Steep Rock.

*** Pool:**

Lisa reported that Summer Swim lessons with Mo VanMoffaert would be held at Devereux because of the work that needs to be done in the pool. Apparently alternative repair methods have been looked into but there is no other way of doing the work that needs to be done. Sheila reported that Morning Swim has not been notified as to when the pool will be closed.

*** Beach/Boat Launch:**

Selectman Nick Solley attended this evening's meeting to bring the commissioners up-to-date on plans for the demolition and reconstruction of the beach house. An Invitation to Bid was extended at the Selectmen's Meeting on June 11th. Architect William Worcester has done the plans and contractors

may bid to construct a “stick built” or modular building. The new building will have less lot coverage than the present one but is 4 ½ feet higher because of the area in the lower level for the airboat. The building will be approximately 30 x 36 feet. Bids are due on July 2nd. Landscaping and parking area will be a separate bid. Nick has made the necessary applications in the Land Use Office for Inland Wetlands, Zoning Board of Appeals, etc. IW does not feel they will need to hold a public hearing however, ZBA will on June 18th. It is hoped that all necessary permits can be gotten in order to stick to the time line of beginning and completing the job between September 15th and December 15th, 2009. A STEAP grant from the State has been received in the amount of \$300,000 for this project. General discussion continued on various aspects of the project.

COORDINATOR’S REPORT: Lisa Easter reported:

* Bus Trips:

The trip to Sail Boston 2009 for the Harbor Cruise on July 11th has 21 people signed up – we have reserved 40 seats. 44 tickets have been purchased for the August 25th Yankees vs. Texas Rangers game – cost \$75 per person – 11 tickets have already been sold.

* Summer Camps:

Registrations are coming in for Swim, Lego, Multi-Sport, Sport Squirts, Beginning Golf, Tennis Lessons, Summer Rec and Pre K Camp.

* Summer Swim:

See above – will be held at Devereux. There will be no Summer Swim Team.

* Library Summer Reading Program:

Parks and Rec has donated a Bank Street Gift Certificate as a prize.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT: Sheila Anson reported:

* Major Stephen Reich Awards:

Congratulations to Lou Magnoli for receipt of the Exceptional Citizen Award and to Ethan LaBella for the Memorial Award.

* VIS Picnic:

Friday, June 19th at the Pavilion at 6:00 p.m. – Parks and Rec Bartenders Joe and CJ will be on hand!

* Congratulations to all graduates and recipients of awards in academics, sports and arts!

* Thank you Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance for the hard work in these difficult economic times and for bringing in a budget that was passed at the Annual Town Meeting without a hitch!

* Litchfield Road Race:

Congratulations to Jay McGorty of Washington for coming in 13th and to the Town of Litchfield for a wonderfully organized and enjoyable event.

COMMISSIONER’S ADDITION TO THE CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:

* Congratulations to Sheila for running the Litchfield Road Race in good time – YEAH!! :)) and...

* HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SHEILA!!

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

NEXT MEETING:

JULY 20, 2009, 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene
Clerk