

April 12, 2010

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

Present: Chairman Sheila Anson, Ray Reich, Joe Fredlund, C.J. Kersten, Holly Haas, Tim Cook, Coordinator Lisa Easter, Clerk Mary Anne Greene.

Call to Order: Chairman Anson called the meeting to order at 7:07p.m. noting there was a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion:

To approved the minutes of the March 8, 2010 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission and the March 15, 2010 special meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission with the correction "Tom McGowan from the Lake Waramaug Task Force" (not the Lake Waramaug Authority).

By Holly Haas, seconded by Ray Reich and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Beach and Boat Launch:

1)A motion was made at the March 15th meeting of the Commission regarding the improvement and enforcement of the boating regulation and boat ramp inspection procedures. Ray Reich explained that to further clarify the adoption of the new regulations the following motion should be adopted:

Motion:

In accordance with the Town Boat Inspection Ordinance, the Parks and Recreation Commission adopts the Boating Inspection Program as revised to March 17, 2010, a copy of which is attached to these minutes and made a part of the record.

By Ray Reich, seconded by C.J. Kersten and unanimously approved.

2)Interviews were conducted for tenants of the new beach house and caretaker duties. It was a difficult decision but the unanimous choice was for David Lyon and Jessica Pullaro. Residency will begin on May 1st and the lease will be for one year.

3)Work is being done to clean up the beach area and finish the landscaping, etc. that needs to be done before opening day.

4)The Boat Launch will open Saturday, April 17th for the beginning of fishing season. Trooper Sordi will be conducting training for the inspectors prior to Saturday to be in compliance with the updated regulations mentioned above.

River Walk Park:

Sheila Anson reported that with the nice weather, the Pavilion was opened for its first rental of the season last weekend. The Port-a-Potty will be removed next week. The walking path, fields, etc. look beautiful – thank you, Gary!! :) There was discussion about the poor condition of the Ted Alex Field sign on the back of the backstop. C.J. will speak with Scott Werkhoven to determine where it was made.

Motion:

To repair the Ted Alex Field sign as soon as possible.

By Tim Cook, seconded by Ray Reich and unanimously approved.

Joe Martin Field:

Tim Cook reported that the irrigation system discussed at a previous meeting has been installed. Thank you to the Village Improvement Society for their donation of funds for the scoreboard at the field. Joe notified Tim that more wire needed to be purchased for a cost of \$84.00.

Motion:

To reimburse Joe Martin \$84.00 for his purchase of electrical wiring for the scoreboard.

By Joe Fredlund, seconded by C.J. Kersten and unanimously approved.

Fireworks:

Ray Reich reported that he has met with Telstar. A cost of \$25,000 for the show was agreed on. Ray and Lisa Easter are currently working on the fundraising letter to VIPs. There was discussion as to whether or not to have music simultaneous with the shoot. It would not be coordinated but Ray has received a CD with a sampling of music that would be used. Several Commissioners will listen and give their opinion. The band, Flashback has been hired and Ray has a "possible artist" lined up for the t-shirt design. Tank tops will also be ordered this year as they are popular and tote bags were discussed but no decision was reached.

Cal Ripkin Baseball:

Tim reported all is going very well. The season starts the last week in April. Tim will get the game schedules for all the teams to Lisa. There will be a Baseball Jamboree on May 1st and a spaghetti supper is scheduled for May 15th at Legion Hall. Registration and organization of Babe Ruth and Connie Mack is also going well.

Turbo Kickboxing:

Hillary Kelly who presently teaches this program at the New Preston Boys & Girls Club would like to be sponsored by the Parks and Rec Commission. Initially there was hesitation to offer the Town Hall as most evenings are already scheduled with another Kickboxing class and yoga. Generally Thursday evenings are available. Lisa will contact and suggest Thursdays and/or the cafeteria at the Washington Primary School. She will also explain that if she is sponsored by P & R, she will need to give 5% of her class fees to the Commission.

Bowling Alley:

Tim reported he has looked at the section in need of repair and will hopefully get the job done in the not-too-distant future.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Lisa Easter reported the following:

Bus Trips:

35 people have signed up for the Boston trip on April 18th.

Spanish Crafts & Games:

Cancelled due to lack of sign ups. Would like to try to offer this again at a later date.

Washington Town Times:

Parks and Recreations Schedule of events, camps, classes and registration form that was the centerfold of the Times worked out very well.

Boat Launch Inspector:

Hank Vallely is ready to open the ramp this Saturday for the opening day of fishing season.

Groundskeeper:

The bathrooms at the Pavilion were opened last week. A piece of the Playscape at the Nick Platt Field has been found and Lisa has contacted the company to try to determine where it came from so that it can be reinstalled. There was discussion and agreement to get a heavy-duty garbage can for the Nick Platt field.

Swim lessons:

Registration for spring lessons has started. They will be offered on three different days for six weeks.

Yankees Tickets:

Lisa stays in communication with the ticket office and has been advised that if she waits closer to a game date, she should be able to get good seats in the "visitor" section as opposed to bleacher seats that do not have a good view.

Roxbury Parks and Rec:

is sponsoring a trip to a Mets game.

Summer Camp Counselors:

Applications will be accepted for the number of slots that are open because of some counselors not returning.

NEW BUSINESS:

Equipment Needs:

Joe Fredlund has met with Groundskeeper Gary Alex. Discussion of equipment that would be helpful, etc. Motion: To spend \$1072.48 for the purchase of an edger and a leaf blower. By Joe Fredlund, seconded by Tim Cook and unanimously approved.

Batting Cages:

There was discussion of constructing a batting cage out of netting, telephone poles, etc for the Joe Martin Field and Field #3. Motion: Due to safety concerns, the Parks and Recreation Commission is not prepared, at this time, to pursue or approve without further investigation, the construction of a batting cage out of donated materials. By Joe Fredlund, seconded by C.J. Kersten and unanimously approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Sheila Anson reported the following:

- * Congratulations Mark Showalter and Nick Solley – Rotary Volunteers of the year!
- * Happy Birthday to Holly Haas and Jim Brinton.
- * Best wishes to Union Savings – formerly First National Bank of Litchfield!
- * Congratulations to Nick Gueniat for article in County Life re: Senior Project!
- * And to James Kersten...who just may be related to the Easter Bunny!

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m., as there was no further business for discussion.

NEXT MEETING: May 10, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene
Clerk

**WASHINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AND LAKE WARAMAUG
AUTHORITY**

REVISED LAKE WARAMAUG BOATING INSPECTION PROGRAM 2.19.10, rev to 3.17.10

Basis for Lake Waramaug Boating Inspection Program

The basis for the Lake Waramaug Boating Inspection Program are the 2002 Town of Washington Watercraft Inspection Program Ordinance and the 2004 Lake Waramaug Agreement between the Towns of Washington, Warren and Kent and the State of Connecticut (the “Town and State Agreement”). These legal documents include the following key requirements:

2004 Town and State Agreement:

1. The Washington Boat Ramp shall be the only public access motor boat and jet ski launching ramp permitted on Lake Waramaug with the following exception.
Car top type boats with 12 hp or less that can be carried by not more than 2 persons may enter the lake at the Lake Waramaug State Park .
2. All motor boats, jet skis and car top motor boats of 12 hp or less launched from the State Park, must pass an inspection for invasive species and be determined “environmentally fit” before entering the lake.
3. The Town of Washington shall be responsible for personnel and equipment necessary to carry out the motor boat inspection program at the Washington Boat Launch with the costs thereof to be allocated among and by agreement of the Towns. The cost of the marine patrol provided by the Towns shall be borne by the Towns through the Lake Waramaug Authority (LWA).
4. When the Washington Boat Launch is closed the inspection program shall include provision for inspection of the car top type boats launching at the Lake Waramaug State Park .
5. No more than 20 non-resident motor boats may be on Lake Waramaug on any given day; however this limit does not include the above described 12 hp or less car top type motor boats carried in at the State Park.

2002 Town “Ordinance Adopting an Inspection Program for Watercraft Entering Lake Waramaug at the Washington Boat Launch”:

1. No watercraft (as defined in the ordinance) shall be placed into Lake Waramaug at the Washington boat launch unless it has passed an inspection for non-native species and where required cleaned according to procedures established by the Washington Park and Recreation Commission.
2. The Town of Washington shall designate one or more officials who are authorized to administer the Watercraft Inspection Program.
3. The penalty for noncompliance with the requirements of the Watercraft Inspection Program includes

the immediate removal of the boat from the lake and a fine of ninety dollars.

4. The fee for boats entering the lake from the Washington Boat Launch shall be as set forth in Washington town ordinance #1201.

Actions and Procedures

In order to meet the above stated requirements the Lake Waramaug Boat Inspection Program needs to be revised and updated. This revision addresses the requirement under the 2004 Agreement for the inspection of the 12hp or less motor boats launching at the State Park and an on-lake monitoring and enforcement program by the Lake Waramaug Authority.

The following the actions needed to implement the revised boat inspection program which have been completed or need to be completed to implement this program.

Actions Completed as of 3.16.10

1. In accord with Section 2 of the 2002 Town of Washington Boat Inspection Ordinance the Washington Park and Recreation Commission has reviewed and on 3.15.10 adopted the following procedures for motor boat inspections at Lake Waramaug.
2. The revised procedures involve the participation of the Lake Waramaug Authority. The Lake Waramaug Authority has meet and reviewed these revised boat inspection procedures and has voted to approve these procedures and to assume the responsibilities assigned to the LWA as set forth herein.
3. The 2010 State Boating Guide is revised to state that motor boats entering the lake at the Washington Boat Launch and the Lake Waramaug State Park must be inspected before launching.

Actions to be Completed:

1. In order to complete the authorization for this revised boat inspection program the Washington Board of Selectmen acting under Section 3 of the 2002 town ordinance need to designate the Lake Waramaug Authority as one of the "officials authorized to administer the Inspection Program".

In summary the LWA under the resident State Trooper and working in cooperation with the Parks and Recreation Commission has the following duties and responsibilities.

- To develop the checklist for conduct of boat inspections, and other materials needed to educate boaters on the inspection program.
- To train the Park and Recreation Commission boating inspectors and to monitor implementation of the boat inspection procedures.
- To monitor motor boats on the lake to insure each motor boat has an inspection sticker in compliance with the inspection program.
- To conduct as necessary off site boat inspection, and
- To enforce the Penalties for Noncompliance as set forth in Section 4 of the 2002 Boat Inspection Ordinance.

Notes:

The Lake Waramaug Authority:

- a. Is authorized by ordinances that created the LWA in the three lake towns to enforce the State boating laws on the lake and to carry out programs to control weeds in the lake.
- b. Operates in conjunction with the Washington Resident State Trooper who is authorized to issue fines

and the penalties provided in the 2002 Washington Ordinance and 2004 Town and State Agreement (see also Section 7-148 of the Connecticut General Statutes).

2. The Town of Washington, Parks and Recreation Commission and Lake Waramaug Authority refer the approved boat inspection program to the State DEP.

Boat Inspection Program Requirements and Procedures:

Inspection Requirements - General

1. All motorboats must be inspected at the Washington Boat Ramp before entering the lake.
2. A training program for boat inspectors and a check list for boat inspections and cleaning shall be as recommended by the Lake Waramaug Authority.
3. Where a boat does not pass inspection, the boat inspector is authorized to prevent the boat owner/operator from launching such boat into Lake Waramaug .
4. Each resident and non-resident shall be required to pay a fee for a permit and inspection in accord with the Town of Washington Ordinance #1201 or subsequent revisions.

There shall be three categories of boaters and boat inspection requirements and procedures as follows:

Day boaters – All persons operating a boat entering the lake for the day shall have their boat inspected following a check list of inspection procedures at the Washington Boat Ramp before entering the lake with the exception provided below.

1. The boat inspector shall initial, date and place a day sticker of approximately the same size as the State of Connecticut boat registration sticker on the boat in approximately the same location as the State sticker. There shall be a different color sticker for each day of the week.
 2. The boat inspector shall:
 - a. Determine the sequence of color day stickers for each week in advance.
 - b. Provide the sequence information confidentially to all other boating inspectors and to State Park officials.
 - c. Ensure that no inspection sticker color shall duplicate the color of the State boat registration sticker.
- Exception – Car top type boats to be launched when Washington Boat Launch is closed.

The inspection procedures as stated above shall be applied to car top type motor boats at designated alternative boat inspection site(s). Information on the alternative inspection site including the hours of operation of the alternate site and the Washington Boat Launch will be available at 1 860 868-6427. This boat inspection information phone number will be posted under Lake Waramaug in the 2010 State Boating Guide.

Boaters registered to camp at the State Park

Under the Town and State agreement a maximum of 13 boats of non-resident campers registered at the State Park campground for two days or longer are permitted on the lake on any given day.

1. Each camper boat must be inspected at the Washington Boat Ramp.
2. Where required by the State Park Superintendent the boat inspector will issue a special buoy which the camper boat owner/operator must maintain in view with the boat while it is on the lake or moored at the State Park. The boat inspector shall issue an inspection sticker to each Park camper boat that passes

inspection.

3. The boat inspector will provide the boater with a written approval slip in a form provided by the LWA indicating that the boat has been inspected and approved for use on the lake. This form shall specify the dates that the boat owner/operator is registered at the State Park.

4. Boaters registered at the State Park shall leave the lake via the Washington Boat Ramp and shall return the special buoy to the boat inspector at the Ramp.

Warren, Washington and Kent Resident Lake Shore Owner and Owners of Lake Shore Access Rights – Seasonal Inspection Pass Option.

The following option shall apply to persons who own, lease or rent property on Lake Waramaug where a motor boat may be moored or kept, and who intend to maintain a motor boat on Lake Waramaug for the season or for a rental or lease period.

1. Each such boat must be inspected at the Washington Boat Ramp.

2. The boat owner must receive a special season boating inspection sticker in a form approved by the LWA.

3. This sticker shall be of a size approximately the same as the State boat registration sticker. It shall be a different color and design than either the State sticker or other inspection stickers. It shall be placed on the boat in approximately the same location as the State sticker.

Pledge Required:

In order to receive a seasonal boating inspection sticker a resident boater, renter or lessee must first sign a pledge that when their boat is removed from the lake it will not re-enter the lake unless it is first re-inspected for environmental fitness at the Washington Boat Ramp.

Additional Inspection Requirements and Procedures:

1. All Park and Recreation Commission boating inspectors shall be under the supervision of the LWA and resident State Trooper for the purpose of carrying out proper boating inspection procedures and maintaining required records. All boat inspectors shall be trained in proper boat inspection procedures following an inspection check list to be developed and approved by the LWA and Resident State Trooper.

2. The seasonal inspection sticker issued to a lake shore area resident shall be marked invalid by the boating inspector if and when the boat leaves the lake. When this boat re-enters the lake it must do so through the Washington boat launch, be inspected and if approved a seasonal sticker will be re-applied to the boat.

3. The boating inspector at the Washington boat ramp will maintain and have available at all times a book with a listing of all lake shore area motor boat owners who have been issued a seasonal inspection sticker, including owner/operator name, boat type/registration and such other information as specified by the LWA and Resident State Trooper.

4. Persons with a motor boat who are renting at Lake Waramaug property with boat mooring rights shall enter the lake via the Washington boat ramp and shall be required to provide to the boating inspector a copy of the rental agreement. The boating inspector shall record the name of renter, property owner, property address, boat type/registration number and dates of rental.

5. The inspection protocol shall provide that the boating inspector:

a. may inspect the boat trailer, motor and all parts of a boat that may touch water.

b. may inspect the interior of a boat, including equipment such as bait buckets, only after a request by

the inspector and with the consent of the boater.

6. The State DEP will be asked to cooperate and uphold the terms of the State Town lake agreement by:
 - a. Placing a sign at the State Park stating that all motor boats entering the lake at the State Park must pass an aquatic vegetation inspection before entering the lake in accord with State Town agreement and Town ordinance.
 - b. Agreeing to cooperate so that all campers or other persons registering at the State Park will be provided with an information sheet stating the requirement for motor boat inspection prior to launching from the State Park, providing information on the Washington Boat Launch operational hours and the purposes of the motor boat inspection requirement.