

January 14, 2008

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

Call to Order: Sheila Anson called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m. following a budget workshop with the commissioners. Sheila noted there was a quorum.

Minutes:

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the November 19, 2007 and December 10, 2007 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. (There was not a quorum present at the December meeting to approve the minutes of the November meeting.) By Tim Cook, seconded by C.J. Kersten and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Beach and Boat Launch:** Ray Reich reported that work is still being done on the boat ramp and parking area. It is still hoped that it will be up and running for the upcoming season. The Beach will open on Memorial Day Weekend provided an ex-budget appropriation will be approved by the Board of Finance for the additional staffing hours. Ray also reported there would be a meeting Thursday 1/17/08 re: Dirk Sabin's conceptual plan of the beach and parking area. The necessary Land Use permits will be applied for as well as with the State DOT. Demolition and/or construction of the beach house will not happen for this upcoming season. Ray asked that the minutes reflect sincere thanks to the Beach Committee for the many hours of work already put in and will continue to put in on this project.
- **River Walk Park:** Sheila reported that at the budget workshop prior to this meeting, there was a "strong" discussion of the recent vandalism that has occurred at the Pavilion and the Washington Primary School. Lisa Easter and Larry Cable spoke with the First Selectman as well and security options are being looked into.

**** Storage Shed-**The shed attached to the Pavilion is almost completed - work on the roofline will be completed in the spring.

**** Kitchen-**Tom Osborne and Dan Moore will also be completing work in the spring.

- **Bus Trips:** Sheila reported that the **Wintuk Trip** was a huge success. Lisa has requested tickets for the 8/3/08 **Yankees vs. Angels** game. The Commission discussed whether to do a Red Sox game this year as well. It was decided not to because of the high cost of the bus/tickets, date availability, etc. Lisa is also looking into a trip to the **Westchester Dinner Theater**.
- **Capital Budget Requests:** Sheila asked the Commissioners to think about this for discussion at next month's meeting. Some suggestions made were repair to the Pavilion floor (CJ will speak with Kevin Smith, Highway Director); resurfacing of the Basketball court; construction of a fireplace at the Pavilion (Tim Cook will get price estimates); and basketball net for Nick Platt Field area (perhaps could get a portable net - Lisa will look into). Tim also has ideas for presenting at next month's meeting.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Lisa Easter reported:

- **Hot Shots Contest:** Saturday 1/19/08 at 1:00 p.m. at Booth Free School for 9-15 year olds.
- **Bus Trips:** See above.
- **Thank You: Mr. & Mrs. Robert deCourcy and Eagle Electric** for their very generous donations.
- **Little League Sign-ups:** Will occur for the month of February. Tim will get sign up sheets to Lisa.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **WVFD Carnival:** Sheila reported that the Fire Department is considering moving their annual Carnival to late July, early August. They will notify us in the near future after checking with the ride company, various vendors, etc.
- **Election of Officers: Motion:** To elect Sheila M. Anson as Chairman, Joe Fredlund and Tim Cook as Vice-Chairmen and C.J. Kersten as Treasurer. By Ray Reich, seconded by Lou Magnoli and unanimously approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Sheila Anson reported:

- **Congratulations to Tammy Marquis** on her new job at UCONN Health Center.
- **"Go West Young Man"/Good Luck to Jon Greene** on his move to Colorado.
- **Congratulations to UCONN Women's Basketball Team!**
- **Great to see you Gary Alex** when visiting family & friends at Christmas time! All are looking forward to your return in June for 2 graduations, 1 wedding, and the 25th Anniversary of the Ted Alex Golf Tournament. Hope to see you at the June 23rd meeting of Parks and Rec when several items of interest to you will be discussed!
- **Congratulations to Melissa (Anson) & Chris Evans** on the birth of their twin daughters: Reese and Reagan! **And to Great-Aunt Sheila!!**
- **Congratulations to Kris (Caceci) & Matt Berry** on the birth of their twin sons: Will and Nate!

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

NEXT MEETING: February 11, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Clerk