

**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**  
**Parks and Recreation Commission**  
**Minutes**  
**October 5, 2020**

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

**Present:** Chairman C.J. Kersten, Commissioners Ray Reich, Greg Kraft, Sheila Anson, Carrie Rowe, Joe Fredlund. Coordinator Jeff Hammond; Clerk Mary Anne Greene.

**Call to Order:** Chairman C.J. Kersten called the meeting to order at 5:36p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the September 14, 2020 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. By Sheila Anson, seconded by Ray Reich and unanimously approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- **River Walk:** Jeff Hammond reported the new shed has arrived. Electricity will be installed this week. An electrical panel will be installed on the outside of the shed that will be able to be used for various functions at the Pavilion such as concerts and movie nights. C.J. Kersten reported he has received a letter of concern regarding cars parking on the fields at movie nights which could possibly create ruts the could cause injuries to players on the field. Due to the soil and the hard surface, the Commissioners did not feel this was a problem.
- **Morning Swim:** Region #12 Superintendent Megan Bennett has given the OK to begin Morning Swim however, a date has not yet been determined. Use of the locker rooms will be prohibited. COVID protocols need to be put into place and a Monitor needs to be hired.
- **Activities/Events:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **October Concert:** Despite the annual Fall Festival being cancelled due to COVID, the Concert scheduled will take place. The Regulators will be performing Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-5:00p.m. The Mobile Pub will also be available. "Pods" will be painted on the grass in order for social distancing to occur. Masks will be required when a person leaves their pod.
- **Holiday in the Depot:** Jeff reported that this year's event will take place entirely outside to prevent crowding in stores and the Town Hall. There will be lighted displays, uniform lighting throughout the Depot, caroling provided by Sing Out Connecticut and Santa in the hay wagon spreading cheer distantly.
- **Activities/Events:** Carrie Rowe reported that the WBA would still like to have the Scarecrow Contest despite there being no Fall Festival. Businesses could place outside their respective locations or at River Park. Deadline and judging would be October 31<sup>st</sup>. There was also discussion of holding a virtual scavenger hunt.

**Coordinator's Report:** Jeff Hammond distributed the following report:

**Boat Ramp:** The ramp will close for the season on Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>.

**River Walk Park:** The new maintenance shed has been delivered. I will be meeting with an electrician on Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup> to go over wiring the building. Once equipment has been moved

from the old building to the new, we will be storing several large games from the WPAL program in the old shed. WPS has requested this as they have no available storage space.

**Concerts:** Our next concert will be on Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup> from 2-5pm. While we can't have the Harvest Festival as we've come to know it over the last couple years, we will be bringing back a couple aspects of it. The Regulators will be performing and The Mobile Pub will be on site serving various libations.

**Morning Swim:** We have general approval from DPH to reopen the morning swim program. At this time, I am waiting to reconnect with Megan Bennett to finish ironing out the new protocols that will need to be followed during the pandemic. Before we can reopen the program we still need to fill the monitor position. This position will be integral to the new protocols as detailed attendance will need to be kept as well as temperature checks for everyone entering the building.

**Holiday in the Depot:** More brainstorming is needed here.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** C.J. Kersten expressed the following on behalf of the Commission:

- **Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday,** Brian Coffey!
- **Congratulations** to Roger Cannavaro who has retired from the Highway Department after 41 years!

Sheila Anson expressed the following on behalf of the Commission:

- **Happy Birthday,** C.J.!

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:15p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Anne Greene  
Clerk