**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**

**Parks and Recreation Commission**

**Minutes**

**November 14, 2016**

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

**Present:** Chairman C.J. Kersten, Commissioners Joe Fredlund, Carrie Rowe, Sheila Anson, Whitney Ryan, Ray Reich. Coordinator Lisa Easter; Clerk Mary Anne Greene.

Visitor: Claire Ketchum.

**Call to Order:** Chairman C.J. Kersten called the meeting to order at 7:03p.m. noting there was a quorum present.

**Approval of Minutes:**

* **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the October 17, 2016 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. By Ray Reich, seconded by Carrie Rowe and unanimously approved.

Prior to going further into the meeting, Sheila Anson, on behalf of the Commission, extended sympathy to C.J. Kersten, and his family, on the loss of his brother, Patrick. Sheila expressed gratitude to Patrick for his service to this country and assured C.J. that the Commission embraced him and his family.

**VISITOR:**

* **Claire Ketchum**, introduced by Whitney Ryan, explained to the Commission that she is a Certified Health Coach and would like to offer an evening program through the Commission. Claire works with all ages, at the present time, mostly with teens, to help them understand the importance of choosing to create healthy habits so that they eat better, move more, stress less and remain happy and healthy. She would like to offer a program for adults that would follow the same points and assist in creating healthy habits for a lifetime.  **Motion:** To support Claire Ketchum’s request to present the program discussed above and to schedule it for Thursday, January 12, 2017 at 7:00p.m. By Sheila Anson, seconded by Ray Reich and unanimously approved. There was further discussion about having a series of evening programs dealing with health. More information to follow.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* **Beach & Boat Launch:** Ray Reich reported the Launch is now closed. Hank Vallely, Boat Ramp Manager, has submitted his final report – indicating the season went very well. The report is attached to these minutes filed with the Town Clerk.
* **River Walk Park:** Groundskeeper, Wes Gladding will be finishing up and closing down Thanksgiving weekend. One tennis court is in need of repair and considered to be unsafe to play on. Wes has taken the net off this court. Lisa Easter Has contacted Classic Turf who gave an estimate of $120,000-$130,000 to completely rebuild the court. As this is out of the question financially, the Commissioners requested Lisa to contact other companies for estimates on re-sealing and repainting of the lines. Carrie Rowe suggested that if the lines were to be repainted, that pickle ball lines also be installed. Lou Lombardi has painted the Pavilion kitchen floor and one bathroom. He will return in the spring for the other bathroom. Jerry Crandall has sealed the fireplace chimney. Artistic Irrigation will be closing down the irrigation system for the winter season this week.
* **Bocce Courts:** Village Improvement Society has sent out an appeal letter to raise funds for the courts.
* **After School Program:** Samantha Sommerer, Director of this new program, will be attending next month’s meeting to report on its progress.
* **Concerts:** Possible concert at the Town Hall this winter – March? More information to follow.
* **Winterfest:** Scheduled for Saturday, February 25, 2017 at the Pavilion from 1:00-3:00. There will be snow shoeing, hot chocolate and s’mores around the fireplace, etc.
* **4th of July:** Ray Reich reported the police bill and explorer’s bill have been received. These are the last bills to be paid out of “Washington’s Last Blast”. Thank you, Ray!!

**COORDINATOR’S REPORT:** Lisa Easter reported the following:

**NOVEMBER 2016**

**ADULT MORNING SWIM**- Ongoing Monday – Friday 5:45 am to 7:30 am. $20/month

SVS put new lockers in the pool locker room. This presented a slight challenge for some of our swimmers, luckily it was done quickly.

**BASKETBALL SIGNUPS-** Travel Team tryouts have been held in early November. Signups for Saturday Rec Basketball which begins on Saturday, January 7th have begun. Go to [www.shepaugbaseballsoftball.com](http://www.shepaugbaseballsoftball.com/) for more info.

**BOOTCAMP**- With Deb Andrews – River Walk Pavilion 5:45-6:45 am, Tuesdays & Thursdays $10/class. They will move into WPS when the weather gets too cold to be outside at that hour!

**GET FIT!** – With Melissa Evans, Sundays 7:30 am, First Congregational Church, $10/class

**FALL SWIM-** Tuesdays and Fridays- Started October 4th and runs through Nov. 18th. We have 61 children registered!

**KARATE:** Ongoing Mondays and Wednesdays at Montessori School.

**MASTER’S SWIM** – Waiting to hear from Dom Gillen re"

**HOLIDAY IN THE DEPOT**- Our 25th Year!! Let’s plan something special!

* Montessori School is singing Santa in.
* The Gunnery Troubadours will be caroling.
* Shepaug School Chorus & Band will perform.
* Cyndy Brissett will be our photographer again!
* Utopia Percherons will be giving us rides around the Depot.
* John is on board as set designer/director.
* Ideas were discussed as to who will light the tree.
* Raffle?

**WOODBURY SKI –** Chandler Brill from Woodbury Ski came into see me Wednesday, Nov. 9th, wondering if we would like to have an after school ski program. Need to have parent involvement. Lisa offered to contact the schools to see if there was any interest. He also offered to have a “Washington Day” where everyone from Washington got a discount on that day. It was suggested to invite Chandler to the December meeting.

**OPEN SKATE/FAMILY SKATE** – info on website, 5:30 – 7:00p.m. Sunday evenings, Gunnery rink.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **Tennis Courts:** See above under River Walk Park.
* **January meeting:** Reminder election of officers and budget workshop.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:** C.J. Kersten reported the following:

* **Congratulations to the Reich Family** on the installation of Stephen Reich into the CT High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame!
* **Congratulations to Olivia Moore** on her being named to the All State Field Hockey First Team.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Clerk