**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**

**Parks and Recreation Commission**

**Minutes**

**April 11, 2016**

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

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

Visitor: Michelle Gorra.

**Call to Order:** Chairman C. J. Kersten called the meeting to order at 7:02p.m. noting there was a quorum present.

**VISITOR: Michelle Gorra** attended this evenings meeting to again discuss the proposed after school program she presented at last month’s meeting. Since that meeting, she has met with the Board of Selectmen who were very supportive and agreed to look into the insurance liabilities and cost, handling of payroll, etc. She has also met several times with WPS Principal Emily Judd. If the Parks and Recreation Commission supports the program, the first step would be to do a registration to determine the number of interested families/children. If there is enough interest, work will begin on hiring a Director and Assistant Director. Commissioner Whitney Ryan offered to assist in this process. There was discussion regarding the number of students, drop-ins, etc. There should be minimal cost to the Town and/or the Commission. **Motion:** To support the WPS Play and Learn (PAL) Program open to K-5 students of Washington Primary School which will begin next fall if there is enough interest. By Sheila Anson, seconded by Tim Cook and unanimously approved.

**Seussical the Musical –** performed at Shepaug School the past two weekends. Sheila Anson commended Maddie and Abbie Gorra and all those who worked on the production for a job well done!

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* **Beach and Boat Launch:** Ray Reich reported that the sign for the fence has been ordered. Beach will be opening the weekend of June 17th.
* **River Walk Park:** The new alarm system at the Pavilion is installed and working. Joe Fredlund offered to have a training session for those involved with the alarm. Lisa Easter reported that All State Fire has done an inspection of the hood in the kitchen and has recommended a re-wiring. Eagle Electric will do the work. The Pavilion will open on Thursday, April 14th for the season. Artistic Irrigation has been scheduled to get the system working. Joe Fredlund reported that the Buildings and Properties Commission will be looking at the maintenance shed and chimney regarding necessary repairs. The fundraising event Tea for Two Hundred on August 13th, has requested using the parking area at the Washington Primary School. Tim Cook will notify the various baseball teams. Parking at the Pavilion area will still be open to the public. Phyllis Allen has requested the Commission look into the possibility of installing a pickle ball court. More information will be needed re: cost, location, etc.
* **Bocce Courts:** No report.
* **Fireworks:** Ray Reich has received information on the number of shells for this year’s “Last Blast” show. 1100 tickets (car passes) have been ordered and the VIP letter will be going out shortly. Carrie Rowe has gotten information on the cost of stainless steel cups that can be sold. She and Ray will discuss further. Art teacher, Donna Wright, is working on the t-shirt and tote bag design.
* **River Park:** Joe Fredlund reported that the Highway Department will be installing the fence. Eventually picnic tables may be ordered for that Park.
* **Budget:** Lisa Easter reported that First Selectman Mark Lyon has spoken with her regarding reducing of some budget requests for next fiscal year. The Commissioners discussed various possibilities. Chairman C.J. Kersten will also speak with Mark.
* **Constant Contact:** Lisa reported she has been using this program (has a one month trial period) and is very pleased. She feels it will be very useful in getting information out to the public once email addresses are obtained.
* **Washington Business Association.** No report.

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

* **Adult Morning Swim:** ongoing Monday – Friday, 5:30 – 7:30 a.m. Shepaug pool, $20/month.
* **Baseball/Softball/Soccer:** information available at [www.shepaugbaseballsoftball.com](http://www.shepaugbaseballsoftball.com) and [www.shepaugsoccerclub.com](http://www.shepaugsoccerclub.com).
* **Bootcamp:** Deb Andrews - ongoing Tuesdays & Thursdays 5:45 – 6:45 a.m. WPS Gym/Pavilion, $10/class.
* **Get Fit!** Melissa Anson - Sundays 7:30 a.m. First Congregational Church, $10/class.
* **Stroller Bootcamp:** Lauren Werkhoven – info tba.
* **Bus Trips:** tba.
* **Karate:** ongoing Mondays and Wednesdays Washington Montessori School.
* **Master’s Tri Swim:** Dom Gillen - beginning Wednesdays May 4th Shepaug pool, June 1st or 8th Lake Waramaug,
* **Spring Swim Lessons:** Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, Shepaug pool.
* **Spring Lifeguarding Course:** beginning March 18.
* **May –** **A Race Against Lyme:** May 14, 8:30 a.m. Roxbury.
* **Summer Schedule:**

 **Summer Rec Camp:** July 5 – August 5, 2016

 **Afternoon Camps:** Span Art

Tennis Camp

 Shark Tank for Guppies

 Multi-Sport Camp

 **June Camps:** Summer Swim Team

Ace Baseball

 Star Wars Lego Camp

 Girls Basketball Camp

 **July Camps:** Tennis Lessons

Dimensions Basketball

 Berkshire Field Hockey

 **August Camps:** How Cool is That? Science Camp

Multi-Sport Camp

***Contact the Parks and Recreation office for more information on programs and camps.***

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **Octoberfest:** Whitney Ryan and Carrie Rowe will begin working on this. More details to follow. Tentative date – October 15, 2016.
* **Summer Concert:** Carrie Rowe will contact band from last year for availability. Tentative date – August 27, 2016.
* **SUP Yoga:** Whitney Ryan will contact Sportsmen’s. More details to follow.

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

* **Congratulations to Lions Club**  - for a great Trivia Night fundraiser.
* **Congratulations to Parks and Rec table** – Trivia Champs! And thank you for donating winnings back to the Lions Club!
* **22-Minute Hard Corps Fitness Class** led by Deb Andrews and Melissa Evans on the front lawn of the Town Hall. Over fifty people worked out in honor of our troops and veterans including the Shepaug High School baseball team! Donations collected will be given to the American Legion Gage Zumpf Post #87 for the purchase of flags that are displayed throughout Town.
* **National Walking Day** – Washington Primary School invited residents to join the students, teachers and staff as they walked the River Walk. The Town Hall closed for an hour and employees joined the stroll along the river.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Clerk