**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**

**Parks and Recreation Commission**

**Minutes**

**May 8, 2017**

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

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

**Call to Order:** C.J. Kersten called the meeting to order at 5:38p.m. noting there was a quorum present.

**Approval of Minutes:**

* **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the April 10, 2017 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. By Tim Cook, seconded by Whitney Ryan and unanimously approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* **Beach and Boat Launch:** Joe Fredlund reported he has gotten prices for replacing the railing on the deck of the Beach House. This will be discussed with the Buildings & Properties Commission at their meeting on May 10th. Jeff Hammond reported that he has the beach passes for the 2017 season. Beach Director, Jeff Cox, is ready to go for opening Memorial Day Weekend.
* **River Walk:** Jeff Hammond reported that the walking path has been refurbished and looks great! The total cost of materials for the walk was $7962.22. Village Improvement has approved $5,000 for the project. The remaining $2,962.22 will be covered by Parks and Rec if not by “Annual Repairs & Maintenance” in the General Fund budget. This will be discussed with the Buildings & Properties Commission at their meeting on May 10th. Several of the Commissioners met at River Walk Park on Saturday, April 29th for a workday – pruning, cleaning out garden areas, etc. Tim Cook reported logs and brush on the hillside off School Street could be cleaned up. Jeff Berry has replaced the toilet in the Ladies Room at the Pavilion. It was agreed to ask Jeff to winterize the bathrooms at the end of the season as well as the water tank. Netting for the visitor’s side at the Ted Alex field has been ordered. Jerry Crandall has been working on the tennis courts – sealing the cracks. Jeff Hammond and the Commissioners discussed proposing a five-year plan for replacing the courts with turf courts – requesting monies be put aside each year to cover the cost of approximately $41,000.
* **Bocce Courts:** C.J. Kersten has received word from D.H. Williams that as soon as there is 3-4 good weather days, work will start.
* **After School Program:** Jeff Hammond reported that he met with the program’s Director, Samantha Sommer, Michelle Gorra, Emily Judd and Janice Smith. The program has been a success and will be continued next year with enough students enrolled. An effort will be made to hire additional “subs” to fill in when needed. $5000 from the grant that had been given to start the program, is still available should the need arise to cover unexpected costs; i.e. a drop in enrollment, etc. At present, the cost per student covers the costs of the teachers, etc. However, the request was made to ask for $600 for supplies rather than $300. **Motion:** To approve an expenditure of $600 from the Parks and Rec account to cover supplies for the After School Program. By Tim Cook, seconded by Whitney Ryan and unanimously approved. Jeff is also working with the District office to make sure there are no conflicts with scheduling of the cafeteria during the hours of the After School Program.
* **Concerts:** The Survivor’s Swing Band Concert was excellent but had a low attendance. Discussion followed with possible ideas about where to have future concerts – front lawn of the Town Hall, Judy Black Park, Pavilion? Involving the Washington Business Association, and offering food - a “Taste of Washington” - were other ideas mentioned.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **Recreation Coordinator Report:** Jeff Hammond reported the following:

**What’s Happening?**

* Let’s talk swim lessons:

The final session of lessons begins on the 8th. The class is full. Mo has requested an income total and is looking to purchase some supplies. I will be following up with her soon.

And what about adult swim…

Morning Swim continues to run smoothly. We have 3 or 4 new swimmers since last month.

* Mail Call

Postcards were mailed on April 18th. I will be reviewing the process to look for cost savings next year.

* Get ready for Summer Camp!

I am still looking to fill the week of July 10th afternoon camp. Unfortunately I have been turned down by a few vendors already. Note: Puppeteer has now been lined up for this week. Brian McCauley, Summer Rec Director, has found an Art Director for camp.

Camp registration forms have been published and available for a couple weeks. A few completed forms have started to trickle in. I recently posted a reminder on Facebook to encourage parents to get them is now and not wait until the last moment.

* River Walk Pavilion

Walking Path refurbishment went very smoothly. The path looks great! Take a look at the new Facebook cover photo for Washington Parks & Rec.

* 4th of July

As previously discussed, the pavilion has been reserved for a potential gathering. I have spoken to Roger C about playing the event. He has said that The Regulators would be available to play. I also spoke to Kevin about the Fire Dept. cooking burgers and dogs. He will be bringing it up at their next meeting on Wednesday the 10th and will provide an answer shortly after.

* Everything Else…

WPAL meeting went well. They are excited to continue the program next year. They have requested an increase in supplies budget from Parks & Rec. This year they were given $300 and they have asked for $600 next year to allow for adequate supplies for the current and potentially growing group of kids. The primary concern they face, aside from enrollment keeping the program afloat, is reliable subs to fill in when needed.

After some casual chat with folks around town, I plan to move forward with a Veteran’s Day trip to Ellis and Liberty Islands. I hope to firm up those plans soon and start some preliminary advertising.

I’d like to ask everyone to please keep an eye on our Facebook page. Please share my posts about events and such to help get the word out.

* Until Next Month,

Jeff Hammond

Parks & Rec Coordinator

**Summer Activities/Events:** See Coordinator’s Report – 4th of July and Ellis Island information.

* **New Grill:** Joe Fredlund reported that Jay Combs was not able to get the grill that had been discussed for the Pavilion. Jeff Hammond will look into other suppliers. **Motion:** To approve an expenditure of up to $2,000 for a new grill for the Pavilion. By Tim Cook, seconded by Sheila Anson and unanimously approved.
* **Nick Platt Field:** Jeff Hammond reported that approximately 80 yards of “playground material” is needed in the playground at the Nick Platt Field. It will cost nearly three times as much if it is blown onto the ground as opposed to it’s being delivered and spread by Commission members. **Motion:** To approve an expenditure of up to $2,000 for delivery of playground material for the Nick Plat Playground. By Tim Cook, seconded by Joe Fredlund and unanimously approved.
* **Picnic with Town Hall, Highway Department and Parks and Rec:** Tentatively scheduled for June 30th. More info to follow.

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

**Thank you to the Highway Department** for the work on the Walking Path.

**Thank you to Officer Scott Flaton** for his years of service to the Town of Washington as a constable. Best of luck in Woodbury!

**Congratulations to John Gueniat** on becoming a Grandfather!

**Sympathy to the families of Dennis Hussey and Estelle Bronson** – two individuals who had a tremendous impact on the Town!

**Congratulations to Maddie Gorra and her Dad, Michael,** for shaving their heads in the St. Baldrick’s fundraiser for cancer.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Clerk