**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**

**Parks and Recreation Commission**

**Minutes**

**September 14, 2015**

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

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

**Call to Order:** Vice-Chairman Sheila Anson called the meeting to order at 7:12p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

* **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the July 20, 2015 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission with the following correction: Under Old Business – change Summer Swim Teak to Team. By Whitney Ryan, seconded by Carrie Rowe.

**MOTION:** To add subsequent business not already on the agenda. By Sheila Anson, seconded by Laura Martin. Discussion: request to sponsor a new program. The motion passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* **Beach and Boat Launch:** Ray Reich was not present to give a report. Carrie Rowe reported that the Lifeguard chair looks great! She will follow up with Ted Devoe and request an invoice. The Beach is closed for the season and the Boat Launch will remain open until October 25th on Saturdays, Sundays, Wednesdays, and Columbus Day, 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to sunset.
* **River Walk Park:** Joe Fredlund reported that he would be meeting with Charter Communications tomorrow at the Pavilion to have internet installed for the new security system. This may also provide WiFi service. He will take care of filling the holes in the chimney once the bats have left for the season. Lisa Easter will contact Artistic Irrigation re: turning off the section of the system that waters the garden areas in front of the Pavilion. Joe asked that she speak with them about the systems not being turned off properly last fall. Vincent Belanger will give the Commission an estimate to repair/replace the gates in front of the Pavilion.
* **Bocce Courts:** No report other than funding is being looked into.
* **Fireworks:** Ray Reich was not present to give a report. The Highway Department stored the “tubes” from the fireworks last year but will no longer provide that storage.
* **Summer Concert:** Carrie Rowe reported that all went well – probably 60-75 attendees; band was great; food truck worked out well. Discussion followed regarding next year: how to increase the numbers, hold two concerts – one in July, one in August, hold on Fridays 5:30 p.m., have a number of food trucks, etc. Tentative dates – July 29 and August 26, 2016. More discussion in coming months.
* **Summer Swim Team:** Director Megan Morse has not yet submitted a report, however, Lisa Easter reported that the season ended well despite a rough beginning. Planning will be done to insure next season’s success.
* **Octoberfest:** Tabled until 2016.

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

* **Ace Baseball:** Scott Werkhoven and Art Crabtree have submitted their report. There was a total of 37 campers in the two week sessions.
* **Trips:**  Wednesday, November 11th - 9-11 Memorial Museum and dinner at Carmine’s. Cost $100 per person, children 7-17 $90.00.
* **Karate:** Ongoing.
* **Sport Squirts Camp:** Cancelled due to low enrollment.
* **Summer Rec Camps:** The first year of offering a 5 week Summer Recreation program was very successful. There was discussion as to following up with parents with a survey and keeping in touch for next year’s program – perhaps sending a Holiday Card. The Commissioners also commended Director Brian McCauley for his leadership of the program. It was suggested he be asked to light the Town Hall Christmas Tree at Holiday in the Depot. **Motion:** To purchase a $50.00 gift certificate from Hidden Valley as a thank you to Brian McCauley for a job very well done! By Joe Fredlund, seconded by C.J. Kersten and unanimously approved.
* **Afternoon Camps:** Were also well attended and successful.
* **Tennis Lessons:** 24 children participated.
* **Fall Swim Lessons:** Will be offered Mondays and Fridays once the Shepaug pool reopens.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **Melissa Evans’ Exercise Class:** Melissa wrote the Commission to request its sponsorship of an exercise class to be held Sunday’s at 7:30a.m. at the Pavilion (if available) and Riverwalk. Melissa is a Beachbody coach. Participants would be required to sign a waiver and release form. She is also requesting sponsorship for a “Mommy and Me” exercise class on Monday’s at 9:30a.m. at the Pavilion (if available) and Riverwalk. Participants would be required to sign a waiver and release form. Come winter months, Melissa may hold classes at the Gunnery or Washington Montessori. **Motion:** To approve sponsorship of a Sunday morning exercise class and a Monday morning Mommy and Me class to be given by Melissa Evans at the Pavilion and Riverwalk. Renters of the Pavilion would have priority for its use. In return, Melissa will give 10% of fees collected to Parks and Recreation. By C.J. Kersten, seconded by Laura Martin and unanimously approved (except for Sheila Anson who recused herself as Melissa’s aunt).
* **Change of time for October meeting:** The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission will be held on Monday, October 5th at ***5:30p.m.*** due to the Town’s Annual Town Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
* **Change of date for December meeting:** Will be discussed at October’s meeting.

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

* **Belated Birthday wishes to Carrie Rowe** (July) and **Ray Reich** (August).
* **Congratulations to David VonMoffaert** on receiving an Emmy for Major League Baseball.
* **Congratulations to Joe Muraski** for advancing on the American Ninja Warriorreality show.
* **Good luck to students and athletes** as a new school year begins.

Vice Chairman Sheila Anson reported the following:

* **Happy Birthday to C.J. Kersten** (September).

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:38p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Clerk