**TOWN OF WASHINGTON**

**Parks and Recreation Commission**

**Minutes**

**June 10, 2019**

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

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

**Call to order:** Chairman C.J. Kersten called the meeting to order at 5:38p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

* **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the May 13, 2018 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. By Tim Cook, seconded by Sheila Anson and unanimously approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* **Summer Rec Programs:** Jeff Hammond reported that registrations are slow but coming in. Interest in the ASAP and Pilobolus program offered afternoons the 4th week of camp, is light as is interest in the Lego Camp. No one has signed up as of yet for the Shakesperience acting camp.
* **Pavilion:** The Pavilion has had a very busy rental schedule so far this spring, including several Shepaug High School Senior Project presentations. Groundskeeper, Jesse Travers, continues to do an excellent job!
* **Concerts:** The Wool Hats Concert, part of the Community Block party on Friday, June 7th was a big hit. The Highway Department generously offered a trailer to be used as the “stage”. Moving forward, Jesse Travers and Larry Cable, who is going to loan Parks and Rec a landscape trailer, are planning on building a portable stage which will be used for the 4th of July picnic and future concerts. Jeff Hammond has purchased a pop-up tent to be placed over the trailer.
* **Activities/Events:** Jeff reported that the Block Party was a great success. The Commission provided the Wool Hats band and Washington Business Association and Valley Spirit co-sponsored the event which involved all the Depot businesses, with various activities being held at the Washington Art Association and Judy Black Park.
* **Tennis Courts:** Jeff reported that work on the tennis courts at the Washington Primary School is scheduled to being in a week to 10 days. The courts should be ready to use in approximately two weeks from the start of work.
* **Smoking at the Town Beach:** The Beach Permit Agreement specifically states there is a No Smoking Policy on the Town Beach grounds.
* **Storage Shed:** Jeff has secured the necessary permits to install a small storage shed on the Joe Martin Field.
* **Picnic Table at the Pavilion:** Jesse will repair a picnic table at the Pavilion that someone has carved on.
* **Sale of old Gator:** As there was interest from two parties to pay $500 for the Gator, Jeff held a coin toss, with witnesses, to determine the “winner”.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **4TH OF July Activities:** The Annual Major Stephen Reich 5K Freedom Run will be held at 9:00a.m. in Steep Rock. Registration begins at 8:30a.m. The second annual BYO Family Picnic will be held at the River Walk Pavilion and Grounds from 2:00p.m.-5:00p.m. The grill will be available for anyone wishing to use it. Entertainment will be provided by the band Raging Gracefully.
* **Activities/Events:** The Billy Joel Concert will be held on the Town Hall grounds on Saturday, September 7, 2019. More details to follow. Jeff Hammond is looking into the possibility of having a food truck available.

**COORDINATOR’S REPORT:** Jeff Hammond reported the following:

* **River Walk Park**: After waiting for Land Use approval, I have ordered the equipment shed for Joe Martin Field. I am still looking into options and doing preliminary research on the new maintenance building.
* **Concerts:** As I write this, with Community Day looming, the weather looks perfect and there seems to be a lot of buzz around town about the event and concert. Hopefully we will be talking about what a great night it was. Next concert to come, Raging Gracefully on
* **July 4th: At** this time, I have not gotten commitment from the fire department to cook. I’m still hoping they will but we should consider alternatives. Anyone want to cook something? In preparation for a midday concert, I am working with Jesse and Larry to construct a portable stage with a pop up canopy for sun protection.
* **Summer Rec Outlook:** Registrations are trickling in. Enrollment is still on the low side but I’m hoping in the next week or so, I will start to see more. I have asked the school to resend all the registration forms in their digital communications. I have zero kids signed up for the acting camp and only 3 or 4 signed up for the ASAP/Pilobolus venture. Of all the camps, I worry that those will be cancelled.
* **Everything Else…**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.

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

* **Congratulations** to all area graduates, in particular Shepaug High School’s Class of 2019!
* **Congratulations** to the Shepaug Baseball team on a great season – going all the way to the Class S championship finals!
* **Vice Chairman,** Sheila Anson, congratulated C.J. Kersten on his promotion to head of Buildings and Grounds at Devereux!

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:43p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Clerk