

## January 12, 2009

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

**Present:** Chairman Sheila Anson, Commissioners Lou Magnoli, C.J. Kersten, Tim Cook, Holly Haas, Joe Fredlund, Ray Reich, Coordinator Lisa Easter, Clerk Mary Anne Greene.

**Call to Order:** Chairman Anson called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. noting there was a quorum and noting that prior to this meeting, the Commissioners had met for a budget workshop to discuss possible budget requests for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. No motions were made in that workshop.

### **Minutes:**

\* Motion: To approve the minutes of the December 8, 2008 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. By Holly Haas, seconded by Tim Cook and unanimously approved.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

\* Beach and Boat Launch: Ray Reich noted there was nothing to report at this time.

\* River Walk Park: Sheila Anson and Joe Fredlund noted there was nothing to report at this time.

\* Basketball: Lisa Easter reported that Intro to Basketball will be held at WPS, Saturdays 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. from January 10 – February 28. Coaches will be Matt Perachi and Marty O'Malley. Katie DeWitte will be assisting. 15 children are registered to date. Clinic Basketball will be held at Shepaug gym, Saturdays 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. from January 10 – March 14. Coach is Hank Randall. 13 children are registered to date. The Hot Shots Contest was held Saturday, January 10 at the Shepaug Gym. Winners were: Girls 9-10: Hannah Krin of Roxbury; Girls 13-15: Sarah Swanson of Washington; Boys 9-10: John Swanson of Washington; Boys 11-12: Landon Holroyd of Roxbury; and Boys 13-15: Zachary Krin of Roxbury. Sharon Lamay, who is on the Shepaug Basketball Association Board (taking Tim Cook's place), handles the programs for the older children.

\* Holiday In the Depot: Lisa reported the evening went well and there was a good attendance with over 200 children being photographed with Santa. (Thanks to Daryl Wright for stepping in for Dean Aita!) Lisa and Denise Arturi manned a table for the "Town Hall Gang's" packages to soldiers program and received donations of items, money and letters. (Note: Sheila reported that the Parks and Recreation Commission had sent several basketballs and a pump to a group of soldiers stationed in Iraq. A package was also sent to Doug Moore of Washington recently and we have received a thank you and a US Flag that flew over Iraq. Thank you to Barbara and Erin Brinton for their donation of the Christmas tree that was decorated with red, white and blue ornaments and stars and stripes for the Town Hall lobby. Thank you to Painter Ridge Farm for the donation of the live Christmas trees and wreaths that adorned the Town Hall and added to the festive spirit of the evening and Holiday Season!)

\* Budget: As noted above, the Commission met earlier this evening to discuss the budget for the next fiscal year. Per the request of the First Selectman, all Town departments and volunteers are being asked to be increasingly frugal in their projected expenditures. Mark mentioned that the State of Connecticut's next budget year will bring reductions in the level of funding for a number of programs and the Town's interest income and conveyance tax income is down - both of which may result in a year-end shortfall. The Parks and Rec Commissioners felt that in their discussion they were fiscally responsible noting that their budget is comprised mostly of salaries and maintenance of existing properties and programs. Thank you to Lisa for her work in preparing budget numbers for the Commission's review.

\* Ski Trip: Lisa reported that 21 have signed up for the Shepaug Ski Trip that was discussed at last month's meeting.

\* Tai Chi: Diane Baker's class started last week and will continue Thursday evenings at the Town Hall from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

\* Kickboxing: Denise Arturi has inquired about having an early morning class twice a week.

**COORDINATOR'S REPORT:** Lisa reported:

\* Bus Trips: 1) Fenway Park, Sunday, May 10th, Red Sox vs. Tampa Bay Rays has 12 people signed up. Cost is \$100/per person. 2) Boston, Saturday, July 11th for the Tall Ships and Harbor Cruise has 4 people signed up. Cost is \$85/per person. 3) Yankees Game – still waiting for group tickets to go on sale.

\* Basketball: See above under Old Business.

\* Yoga with Veronica Kleeman will not be held after January 21. Information on future classes with Veronica will be announced at a future date.

\* Thank you to Robert deCourcy for his generous gift to Parks and Rec in memory of Virginia Risley deCourcy.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

\* 4TH of July: Ray Reich discussed with the Commissioners his request of bids for fireworks from Atlas and Zambelli as well as Telstar (who we have been using for the past several years). He is asking that they specify the number of shells as well as any additional costs for coordinated music.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Sheila reported:

\* Thank you to those who continue to be so generous despite difficult economic times and;

\* Thank you to the Parks and Recreation Commissioners who give so freely of their time and effort!

\* Happy New Year to all!

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m., as there was no further business for discussion.

NEXT MEETING: FEBRUARY 9, 2009, 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Anne Greene  
Clerk