

January 13, 2003

Present: Sheila Anson, C. J. Kersten, Ray Reich, Joe Fredlund, Joan Gauthey, Lisa Easter, Lou Magnoli, Holly Haas, Tim Cook. Secretary: Mary Anne Greene

Chairman, Sheila Anson, called the meeting to order at 7:02p.m. Sheila noted there was a quorum and asked that the minutes reflect C.J. Kersten was sworn in as a re-appointed Commissioner prior to the meeting. Sheila has not yet been sworn in - therefore she will run the meeting but will not vote. Happy New Year and thank you to the Recreation Commissioners for continuing their good work!

Minutes: Motion: To accept the minutes of the December 9, 2002 meeting as presented by Ray Reich, seconded by Lou Magnoli and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. Beach and Boat Launch: Ray Reich reported that discussions will be ongoing between the Town, the DEP, Lake property owners, etc. to work on the Memorandum of Understanding. This Memo deals with the State agreeing not to build a boat ramp at the State Park, the Town would in turn allow a specified number of boats on the lake (non-residents) per day, and costs to reconstruct the boat launch would hopefully be absorbed by the State. Ray will keep us informed when he knows more specifics. Once this is resolved, he will write the annual letter to those Washington residents who rent space for their kayaks, canoes, skulls, etc. in the boathouse.

b. Comfort Station: Joe Fredlund and Sheila reported that the plans and perc tests that were done over at the Pavilion in 1997 are still on file and had been approved. Will not need to redo this. Sheila, Joe, C.J. Kersten, Tim Cook and Holly Haas met with Reese Ownes (architect) to go over the plans of incorporating the comfort station with the pavilion. Once the Commission has the plans from Reese, they will go to Susie Payne and Linc Cornell with them. They have offered to help with fundraising. Sheila and Joe will also speak to the Selectmen and/or Board of Finance to keep them informed of time schedule and expected expenses.

c. Bowling Alley Policy: Sheila distributed a draft of a policy for renting the Bowling Alley and/or use of it by individuals. Discussion took place on the wording of children under the age of 12 requiring adult supervision, the need to have someone shown how to set up the pins, who in the Town Hall can do this during working hours, Town Hall personnel having the right to terminate the bowling if occurring during working hours and becomes disruptive, waivers needing to be signed, etc. Lisa will look into insurance questions with Ericson Agency. Sheila asked commissioners to get back to her with any further thoughts so that she can get in final form as soon as possible.

d. Parent Council/Youth Association: Joe Fredlund reported they have not met since this commission's last meeting. Ray Reich informed Joe that there were no open Saturday nights for a Family Skate at the Gunnery rink.

e. ADA: Lisa Easter reported she has coordinated all materials requested from the State of Connecticut regarding our policies, etc. Will get it out ASAP.

f. Town Garage Property: Nothing to report.

g. Basketball Committee: Joe Fredlund reported that 5th and 6th, and 7th and 8th grade teams opened this past weekend. Joe has also been working with Lisa and coaches to get first aid kits together for all the teams.

h. Coordinator's Report: Lisa reported that Kezia Hearn is taking over the After School Arts and Crafts Program and will also do an 8-week drawing class for children. Lisa also reported she has

purchased tickets for a Yankees/Red Sox game in September. Discussion of doing trips with Roxbury Rec Commission. After discussion it was decided to co-sponsor a trip to NYC in Feb or March for a matinee. Roxbury also thinking of doing a trip to the Culinary Institute and Hyde Park, NY. Washington will help advertise for it, Washington residents wanting to participate can contact Roxbury. Do not wish to co-sponsor this one.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Budget: Sheila reported that the Parks and Rec Commissioners met last week for a budget workshop. Sheila has written a letter to Region #12 requesting monies to help with maintenance of ball fields (this has been done for the past several years). Also the letter points out the need for new backstops at the Ted Alex Field and the Dick Ayer Field. The Commission is requesting the Town of Washington to pay for one, and the Region to pay for the other. Most of the budget is very similar to last year's. Will also work on "capital improvement" requests that the Selectmen and Board of Finance are aware of but wish to have kept in the forefront.

b. Little League: Tim Cook reported there will be a league meeting tomorrow night and that registrations will begin soon.

c. 4th of July: Ray Reich reported that there is a need for "parkers" this year. The Police Department's group "Explorer's" is a possibility. Anyone with other ideas should get to Ray. No one is lined up at present to do the T-shirt design. Suggestion made by Lou Magnoli to contact the Art Department at the High School-perhaps do a contest.

IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Sheila reported that Holiday in the Depot went very well. Neither Jack Field nor Mark Showalter were able to be in attendance to light the tree. Sheila asked Cindy Brissett, Animal Control Officer, who was delighted to do so. Thank you to her for this and for taking the hundreds of pictures of children with Santa.

Congratulations to C.J. Kersten on becoming an Uncle as well as the commission's expression of speedy recovery wishes to Vinnie Forese, Jr. and also to Leo Pickett.

Sheila also informed the Commission that the Town's Annual Report was in - feel free to come pick up a copy. This year's report is dedicated to Howie Bronson - a gentleman who was a very special person in the Town of Washington! Elaine Luckey, First Selectman, delivered a copy to his widow, Estelle, who was very pleased.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene
Secretary