

October 19, 2009

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

Present: Chairman Sheila Anson, Commissioners Holly Haas, Joan Gauthey, Joe Fredlund, Ray Reich, Lou Magnoli, C.J. Kersten, Tim Cook.

Coordinator Lisa Easter, Clerk Mary Anne Greene.

Guests: Nick Gueniat, Mark Lyon.

Call to Order: Chairman Anson called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Minutes:

Motion:

To approve the minutes of the September 15, 2009 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. By Ray Reich, seconded by Joe Fredlund and unanimously approved.

Guests:

* Shepaug High School Senior Nick Gueniat attended this evening's meeting to discuss his Senior Project.

He explained his association with our Parks and Recreation Commission – working at the Summer Recreation program for the past five years, and now working with Lisa Easter to learn more about her job as Coordinator as part of his Senior Project. He is also planning a bus trip to Boston on April 18th, 2010 (which coordinates with the 235 Anniversary of Paul Revere's Midnight Run) for a walking tour of the Freedom Trail. He would also like to include additional opportunities for those attending - perhaps a House Tour or the Duck Tour. The cost would be \$35 per person; the bus would leave Washington at 7:00a.m. and return at approximately 7:00p.m. The trip will be advertised and open to the public. He and Lisa will be going to Boston on Wednesday of this week to do a "dry run" of the walk, etc. He has asked the Commission to support him in his Senior Project by running the project through the Commission (renting of the bus, etc.) Any monies made will be donated to the Summer Recreation Program.

The Commissioners thanked Nick for a presentation "well done"! Following Nick's departure the Commission discussed his request.

Motion:

To accept Nick Gueniat's proposal to sponsor his Senior Project through the Parks and Recreation Commission.

By Holly Haas, seconded by Joan Gauthey.

Further discussion also commended Lisa for her assistance as Nick's technical advisor.

The motion passed unanimously.

* First Selectman Mark Lyon attended this evening's meeting to discuss the new facilities at the Town Beach and the duties and responsibilities of the Caretaker.

The Board of Selectmen would like to work closely with the Parks and Rec Commission on this. The amount of rent to be charged for the new Beach House will be determined by the Selectmen and will be offset "in season" by the amount of work that is expected. The job of Boat Launch Attendant is a separate position from that of the Caretaker. The present Caretaker has the right of first refusal on the position. If he should choose not to accept the updated "duties" and rent, there would be an application and interview process. After discussion, a sub-committee of Ray Reich, Holly Haas, C.J. Kersten and Lisa Easter was formed to discuss the duties, lease, renter's agreement, etc. Mark requested that the

committee report to the Selectmen.

OLD BUSINESS:

* Beach/Boat Launch:

Ray reported that he has received a communication from Tom McGowan of the Lake Waramaug Task Force regarding regulations for the putting of boats into the Lake. They are proposing that Washington, Warren and Kent (the three Towns surrounding the Lake) pass ordinances to deal with these regulations. This would allow the Police Officers to actually enforce the rules and regulations and fine those who have not obtained stickers for their boats either from the Boat Launch or the State Park. Another set of regulations would be applicable for homeowners on the Lake who put their boats in themselves. Ray feels more discussion is needed on this subject with Resident Steve Sordi and Hank Vallely as it pertains to Washington. If any ordinances were to be suggested, a Town Meeting would be required for their approval.

* Swim:

Sheila reported that although the pool has reopened, there are still issues with water temperature, showers, etc. Lisa reported that the scheduled swim lessons have started but Mo VanMoffaert has expressed disappointment and that the cold has been difficult for the children.

* River Walk Park/:

Lisa reported that Groundskeeper Gary Alex has been painting the Pavilion's kitchen. He has looked into the cost of installing a walkway from the back kitchen door and a pad for under the grill – approximately \$865. This will be discussed at the next meeting once labor costs; the need for permitting, etc. is determined. Lisa has also called M & M Tennis to get costs for the resurfacing of the tennis and basketball courts so that this can be requested in the next fiscal year's budget. The hood for the stove will be hooked up and grill parts (for maintenance and cleanliness) have been priced.

* Fireplace Project:

The Board of Selectmen opened bids at their meeting last week for the construction of a fireplace at the Pavilion.

Bids received:

1) Michael Scuteri, Seymour, CT	\$24,000.00
2) FSM Services, New Milford, CT	\$17,750.00
3) Lenny Fleet, Warren, CT	\$23,500.00
Fieldstone Option	\$25,500.00
4) Johnson's Masonry, Roxbury, CT	\$19,900.00
5) Stephen Saharek, Washington, CT	\$23,735.00

The Selectmen plan to award the bid at the October 29th meeting, contingent on Parks and Recreation securing the necessary funding.

Sheila reported that she plans on attending the Village Improvement Society's meeting tomorrow evening to request their participation in this project but wanted to ascertain if the commissioners were in support of this prior to her going.

After lengthy discussion it was determined that the majority was in favor and she should proceed.

Motion:

To request \$10,000 from the Village Improvement Society for the Fireplace Project at the Pavilion at River Walk Park and for the Parks and Recreation Commission to be responsible for the balance.

By Joe Fredlund, seconded by Tim Cook.

The motion passed with one abstention.

* 4th of July:

Ray presented an accounting of this year's firework display with income and expenses itemized. The bill for police services has not yet been received however Ray estimates that there will be approximately \$25,746 as a final balance. He is comfortable with this for planning of 2010's show. Telstar would like to do again.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Lisa Easter reported on the following:

* Swim Lessons:

Pool problems were discussed previously. There were more families interested in participating than could be handled and many had to be turned away.

* Nick Gueniat:

Nick has been coming in every afternoon that Lisa is in the office to work with her and has been helpful and enthusiastic about his Senior Project.

* Basketball:

The program will be starting soon. Hank Randall will again be coaching and Lisa will be speaking with Matt Perachi about coaching the younger team. Lisa would like to speak with the Basketball Association and request their involvement in the Hot Shots Tournament.

* Holiday in the Depot:

See below under New Business.

* Out of Season Sports:

There was discussion as to fall baseball and what the Commission's position is. (Several years ago expressed their non-support of spring soccer). As these sports are becoming more popular, the Commission requested that at the very least, permission for use of the fields be requested. Tim Cook offered to give the Commission a master schedule of baseball games (Little League, Babe Ruth, Connie Mack, etc.) being held on our fields.

* Spring Brochure:

Lisa would like to put an insert in the Town's spring issue of the Washington Times as opposed to sending out a separate brochure. She is also working on a master registration form that could be used for all programs.

NEW BUSINESS:

* Holiday in the Depot:

The date has been set for December 11th. The Washington Business Association is again involved. Pencils and glow necklaces have been ordered. Ellis Limousine no longer provides the horse drawn wagon rides. A new company has been lined up. Santa has been invited to attend and Cindy Brissett will again be our photographer.

* Basketball:

See above.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Sheila Anson reported the following:

- * Welcome to the Salem Church's new minister – Paul Corner, his wife Marsha, 20-month-old Josiah and expected baby girl.
- * Welcome to the United States to Sembete – Ray Reich's newest granddaughter adopted from Ethiopia.
- * One Boot Duke has returned safely from Montana.
- * Congratulations to Pete Armington – husband of Shepaug graduate Martha Lyon on his National Park Ranger award. He and Martha reside in Denali.

Adjournment:

Motion:

To adjourn the meeting at 9:21 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

By Holly Haas, seconded by C.J. Kersten and unanimously approved.

NEXT MEETING: November 9, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Clerk