

February 14, 2005

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

Coordinator - Lisa Easter; Clerk - Mary Anne Greene

Guests: Steve Sordi, Wayne Johnson, Stark Weiner

Call to Order: Sheila called the meeting to order at 5:35p.m. noting there was a quorum present.

Minutes: Motion: To approve the minutes of the January 10, 2005 meeting with the correction "Kate Fredlund's perfect *softball* game, not basketball . By Holly Haas, seconded by Joan Gauthey and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Riverwalk Pavilion Project:** Joe Fredlund spoke with First Selectman Dick Sears re: fundraising status, possible lower bids available, etc. A local contractor has been contacted who was able to give a total price for the project that was substantially lower than the first round of bids received. Brad Sedito is willing to withdraw his bid as the project was not able to be done in accordance with his time schedule (fundraising efforts had not been completed). The Board of Selectmen will therefore extend another invitation to bid at their next meeting (February 24, 2005). This Commission asked that the minutes reflect gratitude to Brad Sedito for his bid and advice! Ray Reich asked if a Clerk of the Works will need to be hired as well as a contractor - "yes".
- **Skating Rink:** There was a question as to whether or not there was water available for the rink if needed - following it's being flooded by the Fire Department. Paul Cullen - Region #12 Facilities Manager - has explained the water has been turned off. Once the pavilion project is completed a water line may be able to be kept open for next winter's skating.
- **Basketball:** Tim Cook reported the 5th and 6th grade boys are doing VERY well in the Route 44 League and all other teams/games are going well also.
- **Concert Series:** No new report. There was discussion of ideas and timing. A sub-committee was formed - Joe Fredlund, Sheila Anson and Joan Gauthey - agreeing to be on it. A suggestion was made to hold the concerts on the Town Hall lawn on the 4th Thursday of the months of June, July and August. There was a question as to funding - 225th Anniversary balance could perhaps be used as seed money. There was also a suggestion to hold a concert in conjunction to the opening of the new Pavilion - late spring or early summer. A request for a concert line item may be put in for the 2005-2006 Town budget - \$2000?
- **2005/2006 Budget:** Lisa Easter reviewed the proposed budget that had been discussed at a previous meeting. Discussion followed re: additional needs. **Motion:** To submit to the Board of Selectmen the budget proposal for fiscal year 2005-2006 with additions discussed this evening in regard to the new Pavilion needs, (supplies, etc), concert series, additional hours for groundskeeper and Pavilion maintenance, etc. By C. J. Kersten, seconded by Tim Cook and unanimously approved.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Lisa Easter reported on the following:

- **Bus Trips: Mohegan Sun Casino, May 16th - \$25.00 per person; NY Yankees vs. Texas**

Rangers, August 14th - price to be determined; **Ellis Island/Statue of Liberty** - any interest?

- **After School Arts and Crafts:** all going well.
- **Mohawk Skiing:** March 3rd after school.
- **Karate:** second session will be ending on February 23rd, next session will be on March 2nd.
- **Summer Camps:** Dimensions Basketball - July 11th-15th; Berkshire Field Hockey - July 25th-29th; Spartan Hoop School - August 8th-12th. Tennis, Soccer and Ace Baseball still pending.
- **Summer Recreation Program:** July 5th-29th.

Please call the Parks and Recreation office at 860-868-1519 for more information on the above.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Bowling Alley Maintenance:** Because of the amount of use the Bowling Alley is receiving - there is evidence of wear and tear on the lanes. Steve Sordi, our Resident Trooper and experienced Bowling Alley employee - offered suggestions of a schedule for maintenance and upkeep - "screening", waxing, oiling, etc. Steve offered to supply the name of a contractor he is familiar with to discuss this with.
- **Little League/Baseball:** Tim Cook reported he met with Atlas Company regarding the Ted Alex Field backstop and the necessary work could be done by the end of March. He will inquire about installing a protective netting to prevent fans from being injured by foul balls, etc. A League meeting was held and a decision to set a limit of 12 children per team was made. If a particular team wants to add more it will need to be a board decision. Late registrants will be placed on a waiting list.
- **Safety Day:** The Boy Scouts are holding a Safety Day on May 7th. It was not felt that Parks and Recreation needed to participate in this.
- **GM Rowing Service:** Lisa has been contacted by them in regard to their class offerings. She will get more information.
- **Dave Werkhoven:** Ray Reich reported Dave has been nominated and is one of 8 finalists for "National Coach of the Year". Congratulations to Dave on this honor!
- **July 4th Fireworks:** Ray Reich reported he has been contacted by the company that "shoots" the show and the cost will increase by \$2000 this year. Ray explained that the price given to us three years ago was an excellent (low) price offered to get "their foot in the door". He has done considerable amount of inquiring and we would not be able to get another company to provide the number of shells and the quality of the show for the price - even with the increase. Following some discussion, all commissioners felt Ray should go ahead. **Motion:** To accept the increase by Telstar of \$2000 for the cost of the fireworks show for 2005. By Lou Magnoli, seconded by Tim Cook and unanimously approved.
- **Election of Officers: Motion:** To keep the officers of the Washington Parks and Recreation Commission the same - that being: Chairman-Sheila Anson, Vice-Chairmen-Joe Fredlund and Tim Cook, Treasurer-C.J. Kersten. By Joan Gauthey, seconded by Holly Haas and unanimously approved.
- **Washington Volunteer Fire Department Carnival:** Wayne Johnson and Stark Weiner of the Fire Department attended this evening's meeting to discuss the Carnival. It will involve the week of June 20th with the Carnival itself being held on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The

Commissioners explained that the Pavilion Project may be started - and not completed - by that time. The Fire Department is willing to work around that.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Sheila reported she attended the Commission Chairmen Council meeting held a couple of weeks ago and found it very interesting to hear what the other Town Commissions are working on and how they often work together. Thanks to all for all they do !

THANK YOU!: The Commissioners asked that the minutes reflect gratitude to the officers for their leadership and hard work. Mary Anne Greene asked that the minutes also reflect thanks to the whole commission for all they do for the Town and its residents.

Adjournment: Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 6:55p.m. as there was no further business to discuss.

NEXT MEETING: March 14, 2005, 7:00p.m. Land Use Room, Bryan Memorial Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Clerk