

February 24, 2003

Chairman Sheila Anson called the meeting to order at 7:10p.m.

Present: Sheila Anson, C.J. Kersten, Lou Magnoli, Holly Haas. Minutes are reflecting there is not a quorum at start of meeting. 7:17p.m. Ray Reich present making a quorum. 7:25 Joe Fredlund present.

Minutes: Motion to accept the minutes of the January 13, 2003 meeting as presented with the suggestion to add "next meeting date" at end of minutes by Ray Reich, seconded by Lou Magnoli and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Beach & Boat Launch: Sheila Anson reported for Lisa Easter that Jessica Giordano would be returning as Beach Director. Ray Reich reported that the letter regarding storage fees for canoes, kayaks, skulls, will be going out the second week of March. Ray suggested that the commissioners think about having a tiered storage fee schedule for those who do not use their boats regularly - just use the boathouse for storage - and those that do use them, as space is limited. This would not go into effect this year - something to think about for the future. Ray also reported there is no word yet on plans with the State of Connecticut regarding the Boat Launch. Hank Vallely, Boat Ramp Director, submitted a report on the Boat Ramp and Beach Property for the 2002 season. These are available as an attachment to the minutes at the Town Hall.

Comfort Station: Sheila Anson reported that Architect Reese Owens would have drawings ready by the end of next week (March 6th).

ADA: Lisa Easter has completed the packet to go to the State of Connecticut regarding the Grievance Procedure which complies with the State's Americans with Disabilities Act. Holly Haas and Joan Gauthy will review before submission.

Insurance Coverage: Lisa Easter has submitted a letter from the Ericson Agency and a quote for insurance coverage for a Special Risk Accident Policy. The Town's insurance with CIRMA does not cover participants competing in "organized athletic activities". The commissioners felt Lisa should contact CIRMA, perhaps requesting an agent come and discuss coverage through them and compare the cost.

4th of July: Sheila Anson reported that the approved Use of Facilities form from Shepaug has been received. Lisa has ordered "light up pens" for prizes at the 4th of July road race.

Finance Report: C. J. Kersten, Sheila Anson, Lisa Easter and Mary Anne Greene met to go over the financial records of the Parks and Rec Commission. Mary Anne explained the bookkeeping procedure and how much money is actually available for use and how much is "earmarked" for different activities. At that meeting, Lisa brought up the question of insurance for Shepaug Youth Baseball and Washington Baseball (Little League). There are apparently two separate organizations. It was discussed at this evenings meeting and recommended that Cheryl Ayre who is on the board of one of these organizations, come to the next meeting and clarify the differences, etc.

It was also discussed to put some of the Commission's money into a short term CD. **Motion:** "To deposit \$5000.00 into a short term CD (minimum one month) and that the Commission should adopt as policy to review the amount of cash on a regular basis and if there is a sufficient amount, deposit it in a CD" by Ray Reich, seconded by Sheila Anson and unanimously approved.

After School Arts Program (ASAP): JoAnne Torti, Director of ASAP, has submitted a letter to Washington Parks and Recreation requesting it's support with a \$5000.00 line item in their budget for

2003-2004. It was recommended by those in attendance this evening that JoAnne be invited to attend an up-coming meeting to review the program, budget etc.

Parent Council/Shepaug Youth Association: Joe Fredlund reported the variety show held at Shepaug several weeks ago was very successful and well attended. Each of the Towns in the region have been asked to sponsor 2 activities a year for middle and high school age students. The ice skating night that had been suggested could not be scheduled. Joe asked the commissioners to come up with alternative ideas - i.e. swim night, dance, etc.

Town Garage Property: Joan Gauthey has been asked to attend the Land Use Chairmen's meeting tomorrow evening.

Basketball Committee: Joe Fredlund reported that the season is winding down and has been very successful. The committee is currently looking for volunteers to take over for Joe and Chris Childs who currently run the program.

Budget: Lisa Easter submitted a copy of the "proposed" budget request for the next fiscal year. Commissioners present felt it looked good with the notation that the additional insurance coverage mentioned previously be looked into further.

Bowling Alley Policy: Sheila Anson reported that the policy and rules and regulations for use of the Bowling Alley are completed. **Motion:** "To accept the Bowling Alley Policy and Rules and Regulations as presented with the provision that they can be reviewed and amended as necessary" by Joe Fredlund, seconded by Holly Haas and unanimously approved. An Open House and Ribbon Cutting will be planned for March 14th at 5:30p.m. It is also planned to present the drawings for the Comfort Station at that time. Various activities will be planned such as challenging the Board of Finance for additional funds, inviting some of the Town's "old time bowlers", etc. Sheila reported that the Use form and waiver had been drawn up. She will work on publicity regarding the Open House and the availability of the alley for use. She and Joe will work on the evening's events.

Correspondence: A letter has been received from the Rotary Club of Washington along with a check in the amount of \$250 which 2001 Volunteer of the Year recipient Tim Cook has requested be earmarked for the fence project at the WPS ball fields. An acknowledgement has been received from the Roxbury Congregational Church for a contribution from the "Morning Swimmers" in memory of Ray Allen. Linda Banks has sent a thank you for her gift given in gratitude from the Commission for her many years as the After School Arts and Crafts teacher.

NEW BUSINESS:

Easter Egg Hunt: Lisa Easter has asked the commissioners for their view on sponsoring a hunt this year. Last year's was well attended but it was felt this was due partially by the fact that a breakfast was held the same day at the Legion and families and children came afterwards. It was decided that Lisa should look into whether there is a breakfast this year, when Deveraux's hunt is and if she wants to organize it, that would be fine.

Election of Officers: Motion: "That the Washington Parks and Recreation Commission officers remain the same: Sheila Anson, Chairman; Joe Fredlund and Tim Cook, Vice-Chairmen; and C.J. Kersten, Treasurer" by Ray Reich, seconded by Lou Magnoli and unanimously approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Sheila Anson reported that Shepaug Athletic Director Matt Perachi and his wife have given birth to their second child - Michael Nicholas - congratulations to them! Best wishes are sent to Jon Greene, son of Mary Anne Greene, Parks and Rec secretary, who left yesterday for a three-month semester in the Rockies through the National Outdoor Leadership School. Pappa Joe Martin has notified Sheila that on May 25th there would be a memorial at the Pavilion for Jack

Kalafus, a former Shepaug teacher and lover of walks. A tree and plaque will be placed on the walking path in his honor. Parks and Rec commissioners Sheila Anson and C.J. Kersten will be participating in the Special Olympics Penguin Plunge fundraiser on March 8th at Black Rock Park along with fellow towns people Phyllis Allen, Meredith Stuart, Mark Lyon and Tom Farnen. They will be looking for sponsors. Sheila Anson, Tim Cook and John Quist are in the planning stages of forming a team for the Lake Waramaug Triathlon in June.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30p.m.

NEXT MEETING: MARCH 10TH, 2003-7:00P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene
Secretary