

March 10, 2008

Present: Chairman Sheila Anson, Ray Reich, C.J. Kersten, Joe Fredlund, Joan Gauthey, Tim Cook, Coordinator Lisa Easter, Clerk Mary Anne Greene.

Call to Order: Chairman Anson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. noting there was a quorum present. Sheila also gave "kudos" to Governor Rell for requesting CPTV cover the UCONN Women's Big East Semi-Final Game this evening that was to be carried on ESPN-U only.

Minutes:

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the January 14, 2008 and February 11, 2008 meetings of the Parks and Recreation Commission. By Joe Fredlund, seconded by C.J. Kersten and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Beach/Boat Launch:** Ray Reich reported that plans for the Beach area would be presented to the IW and ZBA Commissions this week. Completion of Beach plans will be contingent on the approval of the Town's budget. Work will continue on the boat ramp as soon as weather improves and allows. There was discussion about signage for the ramp that would include spring, summer and fall hours. At the present time, hours are hoped to be: **Spring:** April 19-June 20, Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday and Memorial Day from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to Sunset. **Summer:** June 21-September 1 from 6:00 a.m. to Sunset. **Fall:** September 6-October 26, Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday and Columbus Day from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to Sunset.
- **River Walk Park: 1)** Lisa Easter reported that she and Larry Cable have been working with the Police Department regarding the vandalism that took place at the Pavilion and the cost of repairs will be submitted to the insurance company. Investigation is still ongoing. Larry Cable began work for the Season on March 10. Joe Fredlund reported that the storage shed on the Pavilion will be completed, the stove is scheduled to be hooked up in the kitchen within the month, and the new sinks will be installed as well. Joe also reported he has been working with the United Alarm Company re: installation of an alarm system that would include an audible alarm, motion and light sensors, and camera. **Motion:** To approve an amount not to exceed \$2000 for the installation of the security system at the River Walk Pavilion. By C.J. Kersten, seconded by Joan Gauthey and unanimously approved. **2)** General Discussion was held on the issue of **vandalism** in Town and Sheila reported on a meeting she had attended with members of the School Board, Region #12 administration, Selectmen, community members, and Police Department. It was asked that the minutes reflect the Parks and Recreation Commission's request to the Board of Selectmen asking for more police coverage especially during the evening/night hours. **3)** Discussion was held regarding "closing" the **ball fields** and keeping people off them in mud season. Lisa will have signs made up for placement on the fields. **4) A bench** in memory of Maria Locker will be placed by the Tot Lot. Monies have been collected by private individuals. Maria was instrumental in the construction of the first Tot Lot many years ago.
- **Budget:** Several members of the Parks and Rec Commission will attend a Budget Workshop with the Board of Selectmen - Wednesday, March 19th. Lisa reported on an estimate received from Lunan's Landscaping for the irrigation, weed control, etc. of the ball fields. Will review with Joe.
- **Little League:** Tim Cook reported for "Shepaug Baseball and Softball." Registration is completed - girl's softball numbers are significantly less than previous years - have enough sign ups for one major league team only, no minors. Numbers in general are down possibly due to losing kids to soccer and lacrosse. A booklet is being designed that will include sponsor to add money. Tim also reported that last year there was a trip to a Minor League game in New Haven

that was very popular. This year they would like to get two busses to make the trip again. Shepaug Baseball and Softball is asking each town to contribute \$300 to cover the cost of at least one bus (\$900.) **Motion:** To have the Parks and Recreation Commission of Washington contribute its share toward the bus trip to New Haven. By C.J. Kersten, seconded by Ray Reich and unanimously approved.

- **Pot Luck Movie Nights:** The following dates were selected: June 20, July 25, August 9, and September 7. The Commissioners requested Lisa to work on movie selection, themes for the evenings, etc. **Motion:** To approve an amount not to exceed \$500 for the purchase of a popcorn machine. By Tim Cook, seconded by C.J. Kersten and unanimously approved.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Lisa reported:

- **Bus Trips:** Yankees game tickets for Tuesday, July 8 are available for \$50.
- **Spring Swim:** There will be two sessions this Spring.
- **Summer Camps:** Summer Rec, Ace Baseball, Dimensions Basketball, Berkshire Field Hockey, Spartan Hoop School, Multi Sport Camp have all been scheduled.

(For more information on any of the above, please contact the Parks and Rec Department.)

Other programs being discussed are: Softball Camp, Scrap booking and Babysitting.

- Lisa will be attending an Adobe Photoshop workshop.
- **Bowling Alley:** will be closed for refinishing from April 9 - April 14th.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Fireworks:** Ray Reich reported that he has been speaking with the company that has provided the fireworks for the past seven years. Ray feels that although they are requesting an increase, they are very good to work with, etc. He and C.J. Kersten will meet with the company representative Wednesday to discuss further. Passes will remain at \$20 and VIP at \$125.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Sheila reported:

- **Dick Sears** has submitted his resignation from the Board of Selectmen, effective March 7th. The Commission asked that the minutes reflect gratitude for his years of service to the Town and his assistance to the Parks and Rec Commission on several projects/
- **Pappa Joe** is retiring from his hot dog business on Route 202 (a couple from Roxbury has purchased and will continue with the "Pappa Joe" name). Joe will continue to personally serve the Town his famous dogs, etc. at the ball fields with Erin Brinton assisting.
- **Lisa Easter** has been named chairman of the Roxbury Parks and Recreation Commission - congratulations!
- **C.J. Kersten and Tammy Marquis** have purchased a new home - congratulations and many happy years with Claire and?
- **Steve Haas** has been declared one of Connecticut's Top 50 Financial Advisors by Connecticut Magazine and has been featured as a top runner in local newspapers. He is also the new Chairman of the Gunn Memorial Library & Museum. Congratulations on all!

Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion .

NEXT MEETING: April 14, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene
Clerk