March 15, 2010

Special Meeting

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

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

Call to Order:
Chairman Anson called the meeting to order at the new Beach House at 5:30p.m. noting there was a quorum present. With all Commissioners present, the unanimous opinion expressed was that of a job well done on the construction of the Beach House! "Thank yous" to ALL concerned on the project were expressed!

Minutes:
Motion:
To approve the minutes of the February 8, 2010 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission.
By Tim Cook, seconded by C.J. Kersten and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:
Beach/Boat Launch:
Ray Reich explained the need for the updating the boating inspection program (this had been discussed at length at the February meeting at which Tom McGowan from the Lake Waramaug Authority). It would provide for a policy that includes an inspection process, record keeping, etc. It would give the Lake Patrol the authority to enforce the regulations and to be in compliance with the Lake Waramaug Agreement.

Motion:
In order to clarify the responsibility of the Lake Waramaug Authority in the operation of the Washington Town Boat Ramp, the LWA and the Washington Resident State Trooper shall improve boating regulation enforcement on Lake Waramaug by training ramp inspectors and by the development of written inspection procedures and record keeping.
By Ray Reich, seconded by Joan Gauthey.
Discussion continued on the process, the assurance that all motorboats on the Lake are weed free, personnel coverage, etc.
The motion passed unanimously.

Playscape at Town Beach:
Ray and Lisa spoke of the suggested equipment for children at the Beach in light of the fact that the old swing set, basketball hoop and "bouncy critters" will be removed. The equipment they proposed is all in compliance with new safety standards and is geared to younger children. They explained that in talking with several mothers who worked on the original playground committee for the Tot Lot and Church Street, the consensus was not to place swings at the beach. There was quite a bit of discussion about placement, colors, size, etc. So much work has been done on the new beach house and the landscaping, which will be completed this spring, concern was voiced that the proposed equipment may detract from the overall appearance of the beach area. In the end, the majority of the commissioners were not comfortable to order equipment at this time and to wait until landscaping was complete to

make further decisions.

Motion:
To purchase three picnic tables from UltiPlay in forest green from funds left in the beach renovation project budget.
By Tim Cook, seconded by Joan Gauthey and unanimously approved.

River Walk Park:
As discussed at the March 8, 2010 meeting, the Commissioners felt the community would be better served by upgrading the Joe Martin Field instead of Field #4 to Cal Ripkin standards.

Motion:
To amend the motion made at the February 8, 2010 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission to spend up to $3500 to improve and upgrade the Joe Martin Field (instead of Field #4).
By Joan Gauthey, seconded by C.J. Kersten and unanimously approved.

Tim Cook spoke of the need for better irrigation in the Joe Martin Field, as the size of the infield will now be increased. He has spoken with Artistic Irrigation about making this improvement.

Motion:
To spend up to $2000 from Field Upkeep for upgrades to the sprinkler system on the Joe Martin Field.
By Tim Cook, seconded by C.J. Kersten. Discussion followed on the placement of sprinklers, valves, etc.
The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment:
The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m., as there was no further business for discussion.

NEXT MEETING:
April 12, 2010, 7:00 p.m. in the Land Use Room of Bryan Memorial Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Clerk