

March 8, 2010

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

Present:

Chairman Sheila Anson, Commissioners Lou Magnoli, Joe Fredlund, 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 that there was not a quorum present.

Minutes:

No motion taken to approve.

OLD BUSINESS:

Beach/Boat Launch:

No report or action taken on the proposed Lake Waramaug Boating Inspection Program.

Playscape:

Lisa Easter reported she, Ray Reich and Laura Porretta from UltiPlay have been working on possible new playground equipment for the Town Beach. Parks and Rec is hopeful that if any funds are left in the Town's Beach House and Beach projects, they could be used toward new equipment. That figure is not yet available. Lisa distributed a handout with suggestions of equipment. Discussion followed re: size, colors, safety, etc. Further discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

River Walk Park:

At the February 8th Parks and Rec meeting, a motion was made to approve up to \$3500 to upgrade Field 4. Upon further discussion and meeting at the fields with Joe Martin and Gary Alex, it is felt that the Little League and baseball community would be better served by upgrading the Joe Martin Field. The amount of dollars to be spent would not change. Therefore, the consensus of opinion at this meeting was to use the already approved \$3500 on Joe Martin Field instead of Field 4. Discussion followed on the best placement of bleachers, etc. Papa Joe also submitted information on prices for a scoreboard and batting cages. He has apparently spoken to Bill Fairbairn as well concerning Village Improvement funds, and would also like the Little Leaguers to be involved in fundraising. The opinion of the Commissioners present at this meeting was to suggest to Joe that he, with the support of the Parks and Rec Commission, approach Village Improvement on his own for the scoreboard, which has a cost of \$3500 and to wait on the batting cages, which would cost \$8500. As for the flagpole that Joe also wanted, Norma Anson has offered to donate one that she has. Further discussion occurred on the estimate provided by Gary Alex for field work (that is not included in his duties as groundskeeper). It was decided to invite the Selectmen to go to the Pavilion with members of the Commission and Gary to see what is involved as costs for this is a budget item that needs to be considered. Gary Alex has also suggested that a kickboard be constructed for soccer players that are currently using the side of the Pavilion or the back of the fireplace. The Commission will also request the Police to make rounds through the park area periodically

Fireworks:

No report.

Cal Ripkin Baseball:

No other report other than making the Joe Martin Field compliant for that league.

Adult Basketball:

Lisa Easter, C.J. Kersten and Joe Fredlund met with those who are running this program to discuss the fact that they had not yet completed the necessary paperwork, collected or submitted monies, etc for this season. It was agreed that as the program only has another couple of weeks, it could continue but that all procedures needed to be followed next year.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Lisa Easter reported on the following:

Bus Trips:

Nick Gueniat's senior project trip to Boston was recently advertised in the Republican American and as of this meeting there are 5 confirmed participants registered. Nick has been working on publicity- newspapers, posters, Facebook, flyers, etc. to get the word out for more signups. Yankee tickets have not yet been purchased – but will be when better seats can be gotten

Basketball:

ended last week for 1st and 2nd graders and 3rd and 4th graders will be ending 3/13. All programs went well and SBA will deal next year with numbers, dividing into teams, etc.

Beach Playground:

See above under Old Business.

Spanish Crafts & Games:

Cancelled due to lack of sign ups

Washington Town Times:

Program and camp information insert will be in the Spring Newsletter along with a generic sign up form.

Boat Launch Inspector:

Lisa has been working with Resident Trooper Sordi on schedules, uniforms, etc. Hank Vallely will return as the Boat Launch Inspector.

Groundskeeper:

Gary Alex started working for the season 3/8. Clay has been ordered for the fields.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bowling Alley:

Sheila reported that a repair needs to be done on one of the lanes. Village Carpentry will advise what may need to be done.

Turbo Kickboxing:

Hilary Kelley and Debbie Andrews are currently holding classes at the New Preston Boys and Girls Club and have inquired about teaching at the Town Hall under the sponsorship of the Parks and Rec Commission. As there are already kickboxing classes at the Town Hall, along with several yoga classes, there may be scheduling difficulties. It was suggested to get more information on the number of students that are currently taking these classes, etc.

16 Titus Road Development:

Parks and Rec has been invited to a Special Board of Selectmen's meeting on March 25, 2010 at 5:30 at which Peter Talbot will present his proposal.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Sheila reported the following:

Thank you to Ray Reich
for attending the Board of Selectmen's Special Meeting with representatives from the various Land Use
Commissions.

Early Happy Birthday wishes to Lou Magnoli!

Congratulations to Art Crabtree – Coach of the year.

Happy Birthday to Selectman Nick Solley!

Thank you to American Legion!

For ALL they do for so many organizations in the Town!

Scheduling of a Special Meeting:

Monday, March 15, 2010, 5:00 p.m. to conduct business requiring a quorum.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m., as there was no further business for discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Clerk