

April 9, 2007

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

Visitors: Allan Swanson, Matt Humiston, First Selectman Dick Sears.

Call to Order: Sheila Anson called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m. and welcomed visitors.

Visitors: Allan "Botchie" Swanson and Matt Humiston attended this evening's meeting to discuss the Swanson-Horrigan Softball Tournament and holding it at the Pavilion and Depot ball fields on July 14 and 15. The event is a fundraiser for the Swanson-Horrigan Scholarship Fund and has averaged raising \$10,000 per year. They will be using the girl's softball field and matt will "make" two fields in the corner area behind the Pavilion. The Ted Alex Field and the Little League fields will not be used. Matt has checked with Tim Cook re: scheduling and there is no conflict. **Motion:** To approve the use of the River Walk Pavilion and playing field area on July 14 and 15 (July 21 rain date) for the Swanson-Horrigan Softball Tournament. By Joan Gauthey, seconded by C.J. Kersten and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **River Walk Park:** Larry Cable has begun working; the water has been turned on (next year wait until April 15th). **Motion:** To approve an expenditure of up to \$500 for the construction of a message board at the Pavilion. By Joe Fredlund, seconded by Joan Gauthey and unanimously approved. Joe has met with John Hoffer regarding the plantings that were done last year. Some did not survive the winter and will be replaced. John can also do fertilizing and mulching of garden areas including the Ted Alex memorial area. **Motion:** To approve an expenditure of \$960.00 to John Hoffer for mulching and fertilizing. By Joe Fredlund, seconded by Joan Gauthey and unanimously approved. Lisa Easter reported she has ordered a sign (12 x 18) stating that dogs must be kept on a leash or there will be a fine of \$92.
- **Beach/Boat Launch:** Ray Reich updated the commission on the boat launch. Boats owners have been notified to get their boats out of the boathouse by May 1st. Demolition will begin shortly thereafter. Ray asked the commissioners for their opinion on the replacement of a boathouse - its necessity, importance to the town, etc. By providing this facility, paddling and rowing on the lake is encouraged and promoted. Placement of a new boathouse would not infringe on the current beach or lawn areas and meetings and discussions will be held as to the type of construction it should be, it's exact placement, uses (i.e. storage of police boat, airboat, beach and grounds equipment, compressor, etc.) Dick Sears also spoke with the commissioners about the various phases - boat launch, boat house, beach house, etc. Holly Haas suggested completing the work on the boat launch before making decisions on other phases. This would give everyone time to assess what is truly needed, get input, and develop plans. There was discussion of having all the commissioners meet at the beach to discuss this further. **Motion:** The Parks and Recreation Commission of the Town of Washington wishes to continue to provide for rowing opportunities on Lake Waramaug by replacing the boathouse that will be demolished for construction of the boat launch. By C. J. Kersten, seconded by Lou Magnoli and unanimously approved. Lisa Easter spoke to the Commission about a regulation dealing with the timely removal of boats from the Lake. She has spoken with Dick Sears about this and gotten his O.K. **Motion:** To approve the establishment of a \$75 penalty fee if boats are not removed from the Lake by the publicized/posted end-of-season date. By C.J. Kersten, seconded by Joe Fredlund and unanimously approved.
- **Playgrounds:** Sheila Anson commended Lisa and C.J. for their time, commitment, and hard

work on this project! Lisa explained that there were some "additional costs" involved - the renting of an excavator, cement mixer, etc. She also, for the record, wished to extend her's and the community's gratitude to the Highway Department for their time and for a job well done!! In addition, to the many volunteers who made the whole weekend project a success. The Nick Platt Field playground construction will take place on 4-27-07 and 4-28-07.

- **Bowling Alley:** No report - Lisa will follow up with Tim Cook. There was discussion of purchasing a vacuum to be used by Bowling Alley renters to "clean up" after their event. **Motion:** To approve an expenditure of \$300 for a vacuum cleaner. By Joan Gauthey, seconded by Holly Haas and unanimously approved.
- **Little League:** No report.
- **Logo for Parks and Rec:** Parks and Rec is a sponsor for the Relay for Life this year and will ask Cindy Brissett to help design a logo for the t-shirts.
- **Movie Nights at the Pavilion:** Joe Fredlund reported that the projector/screen/speakers have been received. Tentatively scheduled nights for movies will be 5/19, 7/20/ 8/18 and 9/15. 7:00 p.m. - potluck; 8:00 p.m.- movie.
- **Review of monthly financial report:** Mary Anne Greene submitted report on program balances.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Lisa reported on:

- **Playground Build at Tot Lot:** see above.
- **Bus Trips:** August 18th Boston Red Sox vs. LA Angels. Cost \$85.00 per person. Ray Reich will fill in for Lisa on this trip.
- **Summer Camps:** Ace Baseball, Dimensions Basketball, Spartan Hoop School, and Multi-Sports Camp have been scheduled. Details can be found in the Summer Brochure, which will be mailed the first week in May.
- **Summer Program Brochure:** Will be mailed out first week in May.
- **Boot Camp Aerobics:** Deb Andrews will again offer this on Tuesdays and Thursdays at WPS until the warmer weather and then will hold it outside under the pavilion. Cost will be \$15/class for 6/week sessions.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Sheila reported:

- **Happy Birthday to Lou Magnoli (April 1) and Holly Haas (April 22) and Jim Brinton - 40!!** - (April 10).
- **Stephen Reich Citizenship Award:** please submit any nominees to Sheila by April 15th. This will be awarded on Memorial Day.
- **Best Wishes to Seth Nichols** who is currently undergoing treatment for acute leukemia.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene, Clerk