

April 9, 2012

Present: Chairman C.J. Kersten, Commissioners Whitney Ryan, Ray Reich, Sheila Anson, Joe Fredlund, Tim Cook, Laura Eanes-Martin, Darren Dutcher; Coordinator Lisa Easter, Clerk Mary Anne Greene. **Visitors:** Joe Mustich, Liz Gugel, Andrea Coakley.

Call to Order: Chairman C.J. Kersten called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. noting there was a quorum present.

Minutes: * Motion: To approve the minutes of the March 12, 2012 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. By Ray Reich, seconded by Tim Cook and unanimously approved.

Visitors: * Joe Mustich attended this evening's meeting to discuss the possibility of placing a flagpole at the Town's beach. He has spoken with the Washington Supply – a 30 foot pole would cost approximately \$150-\$250; a weather and wind resistant flag would cost approximately \$170.00. Joe offered to request funding from the Washington Rotary Club. There was discussion as to height restrictions, etc. Lisa Easter will check with the Town's Land Use office regarding any regulations that may apply and Joe will check with Dirk Sabin who did the landscape architectural plan at the Beach regarding the size of the flag in relation to the size of the flagpole and where the best placement would be. Joe also asked the Commission if they would be interested in having a "booth" at the Washington Business Association's 2nd Annual Community Day. He suggested the possibility of having program information, selling 4th of July fireworks passes, t-shirts, etc. The Commission agreed to "think about this" and discuss further. * * Andrea Coakley asked the Commission to consider her teaching a class called Qigong (chee gung) for adults at the Town Hall. She explained it is a health and wellness exercise that involves movement and breathing. Andrea has been practicing Qigong for 10 years and is a licensed acupuncturist. Following discussion with Andrea, it was agreed to sponsor her teaching a class once a week – Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. She would like to start in May. It was explained that 5% of her fees collected would be turned over to the Parks and Rec Commission. * * Liz Gugel reported on her start as the River Walk Pavilion Attendant. Despite a "toilet surprise", all is going well and she brought the following to the Commission's attention: 1) the utility room door lock – key is difficult to turn (she will take care of this); 2) the men's room door knob needs to be aligned with the knob hole – Lisa Easter will speak with Larry Cable; 3) she will move the mop holder from the kitchen to the utility room; 4) she will paint or tape switches in the panel that should not be turned off; 5) she will clean and paint the kitchen floor and will check with the Supply Company re: the best paint to use for that surface; 6) Lisa will notify the Supply Company that Liz is authorized to charge; 7) she will supply her own wet-vac for use after pressure washing. Bathrooms will open this week - April 10th. Lisa will have the port-a-potties removed and has arranged to have the septic system pumped.

OLD BUSINESS: * River Walk Park: * A suggestion has been made to install a "fitness trail" with exercise stations along the walking path. Following a brief discussion, it was decided not to do this. Lisa Easter reported that Relay for Life would be held again this year at the Pavilion/Park the weekend of May 18, 19 & 20. Joe Fredlund asked Lisa to have Larry Cable put preservative on the bulletin board and suggested program information, etc. be placed on the board. * * Beach & Boat Launch: * Ray Reich reported all is going well at the beach and the new caretakers are doing

spring cleanup. The personnel sub-committee (Ray Reich, Laura Eanes Martin and Joe Fredlund) met with Hank Valley-Boat Launch Director to discuss his being the "person in charge" – making sure all shifts are covered, etc. The Commissioners realize this will involve work in "off-hours" to do the scheduling. Hank will be asked if he wishes to accept this position and the responsibility associated with it. * * Motion: * To approve a stipend of \$600 for the Boat Launch Director for performing the extra work involved in making sure the Launch is covered at all times it is scheduled to be opened. * By Joe Fredlund, seconded by Tim Cook and unanimously approved. * * An email has been received from Betty Sutter regarding moorings being placed at the Boat Launch so that fishermen can leave their boats and have access to the Lake when the launch is not open. Discussion involved the Lake Waramaug Agreement with the State of Connecticut, the Town's liability, etc. It was determined that the subject warranted further discussion and research and will be explored for the future. Ray has ordered the "Beach Rules" sign. * * Website: * Laura Eanes Martin has met with Webmaster, Steve Wadelton, regarding the Parks and Rec page on the Town's website. She has offered to continue to work on this. * * Fireworks: * Ray Reich reported the passes have been ordered and he will begin selling on May 1st. The deposit has been sent to the fireworks company – there is no rain date. Susan Newbury is designing this year's t-shirt. * * Flagpole: * See above under Joe Mustich. A decision will be made at next month's meeting once information is received from Land Use Office and Dirk Sabin. * * Summer Camp: * Lisa Easter reported Summer Rec Camp is scheduled for: Session I – July 2-July 13 (no Camp July 4th) and Session II- July 16-July 27. She is working on scheduling additional "camps" for the afternoons. If the afternoon sessions are held from 1-4:00 p.m. the Commission will need to pay one hour of custodial fees for the use of the facility at Shepaug (custodian leaves at 3:00 p.m. in the summer). The Commissioners agreed to this charge.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Lisa Easter reported the following: * Bus Trips: * 30 out of 52 tickets have been sold of the Red Sox Game on Sunday, May 27th. * * Swim: * Sessions have been scheduled with 48-59 children scheduled for each of the three sessions. * * Summer Camps: * see above for Summer Rec Camp. Ace Baseball, Dimensions Basketball Camp, Lego Camp, Multi Sports Camp, Softball Camp, Spartan Hoop School have all been scheduled. Contact the Parks and Rec office for more information on dates, fees, etc. Dates for Berkshire Field Hockey, Summer Swim Team and Tennis Lessons need to be finalized. * * Ongoing Programs: * Adult Morning Swim, Bootcamp, Kickboxing, Karate and Yoga continue on a regular basis.

NEW BUSINESS: * Masters Swim Club: * John Moisan and Todd Dyer have submitted a proposal for the Masters Swim Club with a mission to "promote fitness and health in adults through swimming". The Club practice times will be Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:00 p.m. beginning April 12th-June 14th. Charge is \$80 for 10-session season and a \$500 stipend will be paid to the coach for conducting these sessions. * * Motion: To approve the Spartan Masters Swim Club for this year based on a minimum of 7 participants. By Tim Cook, seconded by Laura Eanes Martin. Discussion: * Todd Dyer had circulated a sign-up sheet to determine interest – at least 12 people are interested. * The motion passed unanimously. * * Stephen Reich Award for Exceptional Citizenship: * Nominations are being accepted at this time – more are welcome.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: C.J. Kersten reported: * Good luck to Shepaug Baseball and Softball teams!!

Adjournment to Executive Session: * Motion: * To adjourn to Executive Session at 8:38 to discuss a personnel matter. * By Sheila Anson, seconded by Tim Cook and unanimously

approved. * The Commission re-entered the Regular Meeting at 8:47 p.m. * Motion: * To accept the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission's Personnel Sub-Committee to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that Brian McCauley be hired as Director of the Summer Recreation Camp. * By Sheila Anson, seconded by Tim Cook and unanimously approved. *

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:49, as there was no further business for discussion. Respectfully submitted, Mary Anne Greene Clerk