

May 20, 2013

Present:

Chairman C.J. Kersten, Commissioners Sheila Anson, Whitney Ryan, Joe Fredlund, Ray Reich, Tim Cook, Laura Martin. Coordinator Lisa Easter. Clerk Mary Anne Greene.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice Chairman Sheila Anson.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion:

To approve the minutes of the April 9, 2013 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. By Ray Reich, seconded by Joe Fredlund and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

* Beach and Boat Launch:

Ray Reich reported that all is going well at the Boat Launch since it's opening several weeks ago. Trees at the beach have been pruned and the 2nd application of fertilizer has been applied to the lawn area.

* Fireworks:

Ray Reich reported that money has started coming in – mostly VIP donors; car passes are printed; t-shirt design should be ready by the end of May and ready for production. Ray has asked Atlas to put into writing the number of shells that will be in this year's show. There was discussion as to the selling of extra tickets at the end of the driveway at Shepaug – the consensus of opinion was not to do this. Lisa Easter has received the approved use form for Shepaug for the fireworks.

* River Walk Park: Ball Field Improvement:

No report.

* Erosion on riverbank:

Hugh Rogers has emailed Janet Hill, Land Use Coordinator, regarding the Town's herbicide application along the river at the River Walk and the subsequent erosion that may occur during high river levels and runoff and leaching of the herbicide. Janet forwarded Mr. Rogers' concern on to Inland Wetlands, Conservation, Parks and Recreation and the First Selectman. First Selectman Mark Lyon responded to Mr. Rogers explaining that he and Conservation Commission Chairman Susan Payne worked with a Mr. Bob Gambino who has worked with the Northwest Conservation District on many projects. He used an environmentally safe herbicide to eradicate the knotweed in a section along the river. Mark has asked those who received the email to give suggestions for a replanting plan. Locks/doors at the Pavilion: Sheila Anson reported that the locks at the Pavilion are often difficult to operate. There was discussion about the doors to the bathrooms and kitchen-needing alignment and/or adjusting the lock plates and changing locks and handles. C.J. Kersten will check doors and locks and will speak with Washington Supply about what may be needed.

Motion: To approve up to \$2,000 for needed hardware and, if necessary, new doors. By Joe

Fredlund, seconded by Laura Martin and unanimously approved. Pavilion Attendant Liz Gugel, Groundskeeper Wes Gladding and field maintainer Dave Swanson are all doing a great job. C.J. Kersten asked the Commissioners to think of possible projects that need to be done in or around the Pavilion and ball fields for possible Village Improvement Society funding. Some thoughts are sides for the Pavilion, bocce courts and new roofs on Joe Martin Field dugouts.

*** Region 12 Security – Adult Morning Swim:**

Lisa Easter reported she, Sheila Anson and Rocky Tomlinson met last week to discuss the security monitoring at Morning Swim. Rocky has been the monitor and has now completed a security course. All is going well.

*** Summer Concert:**

Whitney Ryan reported that she and Ray Reich met with Trooper Stephen Sordi to discuss the Jason Spooner Band Concert at the Pavilion on August 24th from 5:00-8:00 p.m. There will be a cost of \$1835 for police coverage. Whitney will talk with him again about asking the Explorers to help with parking. She will also notify the Fire Department and Ambulance. Lisa Easter will notify the Fire Marshall. Tickets will be \$10 adults and \$5 for children and seniors. There will be 500 tickets available for sale either through the Parks and Rec Office or at the gate. Lisa offered to look into wristbands and glow necklaces. Laura Martin will take care of press releases; Joe Fredlund will be in charge of garbage. Those attending may bring picnics and no dogs will be allowed. Porta potties will be ordered at a cost of \$400-\$500. Whitney will also check into asking the Sing Out group if they would like to perform before and/or during breaks. More discussion will take place at the June and July meetings (July's meeting being changed to July 22nd).

*** Summer Camps:**

Lisa Easter reported that Jenn Badger who ran the Softball Camp last summer will not be available to do it this year. The Multi-Sport Camp can offer softball – Lisa will look into this option further. Other Summer Camps are scheduled. There is a need for a Pre-K Camp Director-Lisa will speak with the Director of the Summer Rec program and will advertise if necessary. Marisabel Artieda will conduct the Arts and Crafts portion of Summer Rec as well as direct Art Camp.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Lisa Easter's report is covered above.

NEW BUSINESS:

*** Suggested for Town Beach: Bike rack, dock and BBQ grills:**

Commissioners felt a bike rack at the Beach area would be a good idea – Lisa will look into prices, etc. Placement needs to be discussed further. A dock for launching kayaks and canoes will be discussed further as well. It was unanimously decided not to have grills for safety, cleanliness of lawn area, etc.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

C.J. Kersten reported the following:

*** Condolences to the family of John Marsh who passed away May 18th.**

*** Congratulations to the Alex Family on the marriage of Caitlin.**

* Congratulations to the Easter Family on the marriage of Amanda.

* Congratulations to Kimberly Anson on her new position at Charlotte Hungerford Hospital.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

NEXT MEETING : JUNE 17TH – 7:00P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene, Clerk