

## June 20, 2005

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

Visitor: Linda McGarr.

**Call to Order:** Sheila Anson called the meeting to order at 7:02p.m. This evening's meeting was held at the Pavilion.

**Minutes: Motion:** To accept the minutes of the May 9, 2005 meeting as presented. By Joan Gauthey, seconded by Lou Magnoli and unanimously approved. **Motion:** To accept the minutes of the April 11, 2005 meeting as presented. By Ray Reich, seconded by Lou Magnoli and unanimously approved.

**Visitor: Linda McGarr** attended this evening's meeting to discuss the hiring process of counselors for the Parks and Recreation Commission's summer programs - specifically the Summer Recreation Program. Linda feels that priority should be given to Washington residents who apply for positions with the various programs. She specifically spoke of her daughter who had worked in Summer Rec as a CIT several years ago, the following summer she went to Europe. Linda further explained that the next year she applied for a counselor position and was not hired. Various Commission members explained the hiring process for this program: CITs and counselors are given an evaluation at the end of the program - if it is favorable, they are given the first chance at being hired the following summer. Usually priority is given to Washingtonians. The fact that Linda's daughter was not hired last summer was most likely due to her not working in the program the previous summer. Those that had worked, were re-hired, a "freeze" (due to budget constraints) was placed on any additional hiring. It was further explained that the Director of the program does the review and hiring with Parks and Rec Commission members having a final chance to approve or disapprove. It was agreed that the Commission would review the hiring policy for any discrepancies.

### OLD BUSINESS:

**a. River walk/Pavilion Project:** At the conclusion of this evening's meeting a "tour" of the Pavilion Project took place. Work is progressing nicely.

**b. Little League:** No report as Tim Cook was involved in the All Star games that are now in progress.

**c. Beach and Boat Launch:** Ray Reich reported the beach will be opening Saturday, June 25th. There has been a problem with a Canada Goose population visiting the beach and various measures are being tried to alleviate this. There will be a meeting between the Town and State regarding the boat launch and "Lake Waramaug Agreement" next week. Ray felt that Town Attorney David Miles should be contacted regarding the Town's liability when swimmers use the beach when it is not open.

**d. 4th of July:** Ray Reich reported ticket sales are slow this year but is hopeful that with the ending of school this week and people beginning to think of summer activities, they will pick up. The larger donations are being received (with a few exceptions). Ray is concerned due to the fact that the cost of the show is up and at present the ticket sales are down. Logistics of the 4th were discussed with most commission members having their same assignments. Other details are in place. Who will sing the National Anthem was discussed - various suggestions were made...C.J.? The Road Race will be held on the morning of the 4th and Lisa will look into a digital timer system for the finish line.

**COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Lisa Easter** showed the centerfold from VOICES that displays all the Summer Programs offered. She further reported:

**a. Gunnery Athletic Director has offered girl's basketballs.** Will happily accept - thank you!

- b. After School Arts and Crafts** class for June was cancelled due to low enrollment. Thank you to Kezia Hearn for a great year of classes and the Commission is hopeful she will join us again next year.
- c. Mohegan Sun Bus Tip** was a success with 28 people enjoying it.
- d. Yankees vs. Texas Rangers game** set for August 14th has only 4 seats left!
- e. Radio City Christmas Show** scheduled for November 16th already has 10 people signed up.
- f. Summer Camps** are all set.
- g. Washington Montessori School** has offered their gymnasium for basketball games, etc. Thank you!
- h. Bowling Alley** is receiving a great deal of use which is wonderful however the Land Use Room carpet is showing signs of this use and occasional "abuse". Policy for renting will be reviewed.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. ADA policy/request:** Lisa Easter reported she has spoken to the ADA coordinator regarding a request that was made for this summer's recreation program.

**b. Irrigation:** Joe Fredlund reported that the well has been drilled and is producing 60 gallons a minute. There have been added expenses not originally planned for (casing in the well, grounding on wiring for pump, etc.) The total cost will be approximately \$5400 more than anticipated. \$1000 has been offered from the Baseball program, other donations may be received from organizations and the balance may come from Parks and Rec programs. **Motion:** To approve the additional expenditures necessary to complete the irrigation project - Phase IV - not to exceed \$4400. By Joan Gauthey, seconded by C.J. Kersten and unanimously approved.

**c. Congratulations to Chairman Sheila Anson** for participating in the Litchfield Road Race on a 90 plus degree day and finishing STRONG!!

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Sheila Anson congratulated **Lou and Jan Magnoli and Linc and Lynette Cornell on their 50th Wedding Anniversaries!** Congratulations to **Kristen Haas receiving her Masters in Social Work and Guidance Counseling** and **Nicholas Haas on his graduation** from Roger Williams. Congratulations to **Joe Fredlund who received the "Friend of Shepaug Award"** and **Kate Fredlund on her graduation and receiving the Joe Babcock Award.** Congratulations to **Ben Crabtree who has been signed with the Texas Rangers.**

A special tribute to **Alden ("Denny") Johnson** who passed away after a courageous fight with cancer. Denny was known and loved by many. He will be remembered for his many years as a volunteer fireman, a skilled carpenter, and most importantly as a fine and genuine friend! He will be greatly missed by us all!

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:11p.m. as there was no further business.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Anne Greene  
Clerk