

July 17, 2006

Present: Chairman Sheila Anson, Ray Reich, Joan Gauthey, Holly Haas, Lou Magnoli, Clerk Mary Anne Greene

Visitor: Michael Gorra

Call to Order: Chairman Anson called the meeting to order at 7:10p.m. noting there was a quorum.

Minutes:

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the June 19, 2006 meeting as presented. By Holly Haas, seconded by Joan Gauthey and unanimously approved.

VISITOR: Michael Gorra attended this evening's meeting to discuss the Washington/Gunnery Youth Hockey program. The current board of the Hockey Association has decided to merge with the New Milford program. Numbers of players have been down, there would be more flexibility - part of a regional program. The travel teams would begin tryouts in August; house teams would be more developmental. Michael sees the benefits of the merger but is not in agreement with it especially for the younger players. He gave a brief history of the program explaining Jim Goodale, who was later joined by Bunker Burr and Ferris Gorra, had started it in 1973. It began as an "outreach" to the Washington community by the Gunnery school. The program brought together private school students, weekend children and local children. Michael is not certain that the new regional program would accomplish some of these original goals. He would like to make a proposal to the Gunnery School to create a new program that would be smaller in scope and run from November to February - a "winter sport" - thus giving the participants the opportunity to participate in other sports should they choose. The longer season of the regional program would not allow this flexibility. Michael views his group as the "house team". What he is seeking from Washington Parks and Recreation Commission is its support. He was asked to put together a statement that clearly outlines the program - its purpose, pros, cons, etc. Michael will submit this to the Commission.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **River Walk Park:** Sheila has been advised that the "emergency pull cords" in the bathrooms do not work and the light switches in the storage area still have not been installed. Joe Fredlund and C.J. Kersten will be notified about this. Michael Gorra asked about a streetlight that is lit all evening and shines into their bedroom. Can a shade be placed on it? Mary Anne Greene offered to inquire about this.
- **Beach /Boat Launch:** Ray Reich reported that Jeff Cox, Beach Director, and Hank Vallely, Boat Ramp Director, are into their seasons full swing and everything appears to be working fine. Ray also asked the Commissioners for their support on the proposed plans for the new boat launch (part of the Lake Waramaug Agreement). Final drawings are in the process of being done, they will then need to be signed off on by the state. The entire facility needs to be upgraded in the not-too-distant future.
- **Fireworks:** Ray passed out a final report showing income, expenses and a projected balance of \$29,475 after all the bills are paid. The majority of this amount will be placed in a CD and used for next year's event. Ray also informed the Commissioners that the cost of the fireworks would most likely increase by at least \$1000 next year. The consensus was to stay with Telstar - very pleased with their performance and show. Ray thanked all for their hard work before, during and after (clean up)! He also asked those present to think about raising the cost of the VIP pass to \$125 or \$150 from \$100.. The suggestion was made for next year to make sure the notices in

the paper are clear about when and where tickets will be sold. This year, a paper publicized that tickets were "available at the Washington Food Market" instead of "in front of the Market at (times).

- **Summer Concerts:** Sheila reported that Lisa (as far as she knew) had still not been contacted about the Navy Band's coming to Washington. Most likely will not happen this year but we would like to get our request in now for next summer. The Shepaug Friends of Music will be holding their concert on July 29th.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Lisa Easter submitted a written report on:

- **Summer Swim:** Session I started 7/17, Session II will start 7/31. Both sessions are full.
- **Bus trips:** Yankees vs. Angels - 8/13 - \$55; Red Sox vs. Baltimore - 10/1 -\$85.
- **Summer Camps:** Tennis - 36 children; Swim - 130 children; Summer Rec - 55 children and 18 in the K/PreK camp; Multi Sport Camp - 36 children with registrations still coming in.
- **Pavilion:** The refrigerator has been purchased and delivered and a First Aid Kit has been given to Larry Cable to be placed at the Pavilion.
- **Playgrounds:** Lisa reported she has met with the representative from Playworld (who installed the system at the WPS and Hurlburt Park in Roxbury). She will be meeting with at least two other companies.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Sheila reported on the following upcoming events:

- **July Birthdays:** 1st- Joe Fredlund, 12th-Joan Gauthey, 25th-Mary Anne Greene, 27th-Tim Cook
- **August 14th** - Lou Magnoli's surgery - wishing him well!!

Adjournment:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Clerk