

July 21, 2008

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

Visitor: Matthew Klauer.

Call to Order: Sheila Anson called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. noting there was a quorum thanks to C.J. and Joe getting back from the Dutcher Golf Tournament!

Minutes:

Motion: To approve the minutes of the June 23, 2008 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission. By Joan Gauthey, seconded by Holly Haas and unanimously approved.

Visitors:

Matthew Klauer attended this evening's meeting to introduce himself to the Commission and to present his plan for 101 Wykeham Road, and get feedback. He distributed a handout and drawing, explained the history of the property, spoke of his plans to be LEED certified, environmentally friendly, provide employment, support local farms, etc. Some Commission members asked several questions and voiced concerns on subjects such as water supply and the effect a project of this size would have on the other users of the system, the number of inn guests, restaurant patrons, employees, traffic generated, noise levels, etc. Mr. Klauer answered all questions, explaining that, in his opinion, his plan is very sensitive to all the concerns voiced, and the negative impact on the neighborhood would be minimal if at all.

OLD BUSINESS:

Beach/Boat Launch: Sheila reported that the flowers have been planted in the barrels. Ray Reich reported that the siding in not yet on the compressor building but should be installed soon. Jeff Cox, Beach Director, and Hank Vallely, Boat Launch Director, are reporting no problems.

River Walk Park: Lisa Easter reported the bathroom floors at the Pavilion have been painted; the tennis courts have been re-surfaced. The Fire Department Carnival and Swanson/Horrigan Softball Tournament went very well and both did an excellent job of cleaning up afterwards. Sheila has spoken with Julie Adams re: weeding, pruning, and generally cleaning up around the split-rail fences at the Pavilion – she would charge \$75 for 3 hours. Motion: To hire Julie Adams to do the initial work agreed upon and to authorize 2 or 3 more sessions, if necessary, at a cost of \$75/session. By Joan Gauthey, seconded by Holly Haas and unanimously approved. Joe Fredlund reported that the fieldwork had been done prior to the softball tournament and he was very satisfied with the job done by Lunan's Landscaping.

Fireworks: Ray Reich gave a re-cap of the canceling of this year's fireworks, the involvement of the Fire Marshall, Emergency Management Coordinator, review of the weather forecast, etc. It was unanimously agreed that it was a difficult decision to make and the Commission expressed their willingness to assist Ray on the decision making process, to review the possibility of changes to the procedure for making that decision and if there should be changes to the event itself, as well as the ticket sales, t-shirt sales, road race etc. THANK YOU, RAY!

Little League: No report. Lisa will contact Tim Cook for a report.

Pot Luck Movie Night: Friday, July 25th is the next Movie Night.

Concert: Friends of Shepaug Music Concert in Washington is scheduled for Sunday, August 10 from

5-7:00 p.m. Dwayne Andrews will be performing. The public is invited to attend.

Louise King Donation: Louise has again made a very generous donation in memory of her friend, Diane Crosby. The commissioners will discuss how it will be used at the River Walk Park – perhaps a tree, new bench ..?...

COORDINATOR’S REPORT: Lisa reported:

Bus Trips: Bus trip to Yankee stadium on July 8th was a huge success – great weather, lots of fun and a Yankee victory over Tamp Bay!

Summer Rec: Cecilia Page has been doing a fantastic job as director of the program – last day is Friday, July 25.

Tennis Camp: Joanne Kelly had 27 children for the 5-day clinic with no rain! She is planning a program for the fall.

Dimensions Basketball: Matt Perachi reported: “Thanks for sponsoring us again. Boys turnout was good but girls was not. Thanks again!”

Beginner’s Golf Clinic: This was the first year for this camp - 13 children participated. Children and parents loved it!

Multi-Sport and Sport Squirts Camp: This will be held August 11-15 from 9-3:00. 12 children are registered for the Squirts and 21 for the Multi Sports. Matt from USSI is pleased with these numbers.

NEW BUSINESS:

Doug Bixby’s Party: There will be a going away/thank you celebration for Doug Bixby on Saturday, August 2 at 4:00 p.m. at the Salem Church. Doug has not only contributed a great amount to the community but to Parks and Recreation as well. Sheila will be making a presentation at the ceremony.

Ballet/Tap Dance Classes: Jennifer Ahearn from Warren has approached the Commission about holding several sessions of dance classes including tap, ballet, and jazz, for varying age groups in the fall. Motion: To approve Jennifer’s proposal to hold dance classes that would be sponsored by the Parks and Rec Commission. By Joan Gauthey, seconded by Holly Haas and unanimously approved.

OSHA Inspection: OSHA conducted a surprise inspection in the Town last week and the Parks and Recreation Commission-beach, programs, etc. passed with flying colors!

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT: Sheila reported:

Happy July Birthdays to: Joe Fredlund, Joan Gauthey, Tim Cook, and Mary Anne Greene.

Congratulations to Evan Scribner on his being “sold” to the San Diego Padres! Congratulations to Mom and Dad too.

Enjoy the rest of summer – reminder ... no August meeting...see you in September!

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Clerk