

## September 8, 2003

Chairman Sheila Anson called the meeting to order at 7:05 noting there was a quorum.

**Present:** Sheila Anson, Lou Magnoli, C. J. Kersten, Lisa Easter, Holly Haas, Joan Gauthey, Ray Reich, Joe Fredlund, Tim Cook, Mary Anne Greene-Secretary. Guests: JoAnne Torti, Dick Sears.

**Minutes: Motion:** To accept the minutes of the July 14th meeting as presented by Holly Haas, seconded by Lou Magnoli and unanimously approved. **Motion:** As there was not a quorum at the August 11th meeting, to accept the "notes" as presented by C.J. Kersten, seconded by Joan Gauthey and unanimously approved.

Chairman Sheila Anson welcomed Dick Sears (Democratic candidate for First Selectmen) to the meeting. Mr. Sears wanted to say hello and congratulations to the commissioners for a job well done. He feels that the use of the Town's public spaces for people to have fun, socialize, etc. is very important and wanted the Commission to know he is very supportive of using the old Town Garage site as a Town Park, playing fields, etc. Sheila also mentioned the importance of making all candidates aware of plans at the Pavilion. Also congratulations to Tim Cook for playing in the Swanson-Horrigan softball tournament, to Ray Reich for being featured in the Gunnery Bulletin and to C. J. Kersten for his team winning the softball tournament.

**I. Guest: Joanne Torti - report on ASAP:** JoAnne presented the Commissioners with the ASAP booklet/schedule for this school year. Very pleased with the Community Project that has attracted participants of all ages including students and faculty from all schools in the Town. High School students helped write a grant to the Connecticut Commission of the Arts. The number of programs has increased as well as the participants. Artist's fees are down. A budget of the entire program was given to Lisa Easter and to Ray Reich (a member of the ASAP Advisory Board). Region 12 has given the program \$3,500.00. JoAnne urged all members of the commission to attend the January 8th performance that will be a result of the Community Project with Pilobolus.

### II. OLD BUSINESS:

**a. Beach and Boat Launch:** Ray Reich reported that the Beach Season was a successful one with all going smoothly. The willow tree had to be taken down. Thanks to Hank Valley - who continues to do a fine job as the Boat Launch Director - and his friend, for planting flowers in the barrels. Talks continue with the State DEP regarding the boat launch. Andy Roraback has been very supportive.

**b. Comfort Station:** Sheila Anson and Joe Fredlund have been working on the drafts of the fundraising letter. Hopefully will be done this week with Ken Johnson doing the printing. Commission will get together to work on the mailing. Sheila and Joe have had further meetings with Linc Cornell and Susie Payne regarding the fundraising effort. They also met with Gunnery Headmaster Susie Graham as Gunnery uses several of the Town's fields. Lou Magnoli stressed the importance of ALL the commissioners supporting this project. Sheila noted that minutes of an April 13, 1982 Town Meeting recorded then First Selectman John Marsh as saying "...the Pavilion will have portable "johns" but the hope is that eventually there will be toilets and running water."

**c. Parent Council/Youth Association:** Joe Fredlund reported there was no August meeting and the first meeting of the year is scheduled for next week.

**d. Town Garage Property-Plan of Development:** Joan Gauthey had no report on this.

**e. Baseball/Little League:** Tim Cook had no report on this. Lisa reported that Grass Roots had applied weed killer. Joe Fredlund voiced concern at the amount of weeds still in the playing fields. Lisa will contact Grass Roots.

**f. Dick Ayer Field Backstop:** Joe Fredlund has called Atlas and is waiting for a quote. Will have to go out to bid on this project. Tim Cook will talk with Don Banks of Banks Fencing to discuss repairs to gate, etc.

**III. COORDINATORS'S REPORT:** Lisa Easter reported Sunday's trip to Yankee Stadium (vs. Red Sox) was a huge success. Joint bus trip with Roxbury to see "Mamma Mia" is scheduled for October 15th with a cost of \$75 pp. Lisa asked about sponsoring a bus trip to Madison Square Garden to see "A Christmas Carol". It was suggested to do a "survey" of interest. The trip to Radio City Music Hall to see the Christmas Show is scheduled every other year. All Summer Programs and camps were successful and reports and fees have been received from Ace Baseball, Dimensions Basketball and Spartan Hoop School. Fall swim lessons will begin on September 19th. Mo VanMoffaert continues to do a fantastic job with the swim program and Bob Futh trains all instructors in CPR at no cost. A "Resuci Annie" was purchased for Bob to express gratitude. Kezia Hearn will again direct the After School Arts and Crafts Program. School use forms have been completed and are on file for Adult Basketball and Youth Basketball programs.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. Sidewalk Sale:** The Washington Business Association will be holding their annual sale on Saturday, September 20, 2003 from 10:00-2:00. It was decided that Parks and Recreation could set up a booth for fundraising for Comfort Station and for announcing other programs.

**IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

**a.** Sheila Anson asked the Commissioners to be thinking of a name for the park that includes Riverwalk. Perhaps do a questionnaire at Sidewalk Sale.

**b.** Sheila also asked the Commissioners to be thinking about a "Washington Squares" fundraiser (take off on Hollywood Squares) to be held as a community night some time in the winter.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05p.m.

**NEXT MEETING: October 6, 2003, 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene  
Secretary