

September 9, 2013

Present:

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

Call to Order:

Chairman C.J. Kersten called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion:

To approve the minutes of the June 17, 2013 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission.
By Tim Cook, seconded by Laura Martin and unanimously approved.

Motion:

To approve the minutes of the July 22, 2013 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission.
By Tim Cook, seconded by Sheila Anson and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

* Beach and Boat Launch:

Lisa Easter reported that Beach Director Jeff Cox will be submitting his written report shortly. He has indicated that he and the staff had a good season with all running smoothly. One resident voiced concern that the "hot dog lady" may be taking up too much space in the parking lot – particularly on weekends when the beach is more crowded. The Commissioners have not heard other complaints and, at this time, felt it was working out fine. Laura Martin thanked the Commission on behalf of the Washington Montessori School for allowing the school's camps to hold swim lessons at the beach. She also expressed positive comments that she has heard from other families in Town who use the beach often.

* River Walk Park:

Sheila Anson reported that some of the electrical outlets at the Pavilion were not working for the Jason Spooner Concert. Lisa Easter will contact Eagle Electric regarding this matter as well as the stove hood fan, lights in the storage area and the light for the grill area. Lisa also reported that the straps she ordered for the tennis court nets are in and she will have them installed. Michael Gorra has asked the Commission to consider the installation of "privacy fences" at the tennis courts. These are a green plastic fence covering that would block out the events going on around the courts. It was estimated that there would be a cost of approximately \$100 for each of the two required. More information will be obtained and perhaps done in the spring. The cracks in the cement floor of the Pavilion were discussed again. C.J. Kersten offered to speak with Highway Director Kevin Smith for his expertise and opinion and also with Tom Knecht. Tim Cook reported he continues to work on taking down the trees behind the Joe Martin Field so that the field can be enlarged. He has nine trees more to go! Roofs for the dugouts at the Joe Martin Field were again discussed as something that may be of interest to the Village Improvement Society. The Pavilion

refrigerator is not working. Thank you to Botchie Swanson for leaving his spare there for the present time. Joe Fredlund offered to contact the Powerhouse with regard to purchasing a new refrigerator.

Motion:

To approve an expenditure of up to \$2000 for the purchase of a new refrigerator for the kitchen at the Pavilion.

By Sheila Anson, seconded by Tim Cook and unanimously approved.

* Joe Fredlund reported the floors in the bathrooms and the kitchen at the Pavilion did not get painted this fall. Lisa Easter will contact Groundskeeper Wes Gladding and ask him to get this done by the end of the month – prior to the cold weather setting in. Lisa will also contact Larry Cable regarding the locks in the doors to the bathrooms and kitchen. She will also check on the soap dispensers, bathroom stall latches and urinal partition – all of which may need replacing. There has been an issue with skateboarders in the Pavilion. Mary Anne Greene offered to speak with Pavilion Attendant Liz Gugel about this and to contact the police to request their patrolling the area. Arbor Services has submitted an estimate for work that may be necessary at the park – clean-up of trees damaged from storms, stump grinding, fertilization, etc. amounting to \$13,000. Arbor Services has generously offered to “donate” half of any services chosen with a maximum donation of \$6,500. The Commissioners thanked Bill Pollock and Arbor Services for this generous offer and will have Tree Warden Tom Osborne review the work outlined and suggested by Bill. Lisa will also contact Arbor Services to remind them about trimming the Christmas Tree at the Town Hall.

* Jason Spooner Summer Concert:

A huge success! Thank you Whitney Ryan! 262 tickets were sold generating \$2140, the weather was perfect, and all had a wonderful time. A “second annual Jason Spooner Concert” is scheduled for August 23, 2014! The Commissioners approved a \$500 to the Washington Ambulance Association from the Parks and Rec account – not only for being available for this event but for all the events scheduled in Town throughout the year. They also approved a donation of \$250 to the Litchfield Explorers from the General Fund Summer Concert line item - for their assistance with parking.

* Summer Camp Wrap Up:

See “Coordinator’s Report”.

COORDINATOR’S REPORT:

Lisa Easter reported the following:

* Summer Rec Camp – number of attendees down from previous years;

Lego Camp – 18 students;

Art Camp – 13 students;

Science Camp – 17 students; and

Tennis Lessons – 22 students.

* Fall Swim Lessons will be held Fridays starting September 27th and Mondays starting October 7th.

* How Cool Is That – after school science class will be held Fridays starting September 27th from 3:15-4:15 - \$10 per class.

* After School Art Classes are being planned.

* Holiday in the Depot:

Friday, December 13th. Who will light the tree?

NEW BUSINESS:

* 4TH of July:

Ray Reich reported that a \$750 cancellation fee had to be paid to the Fireworks Company but we were able to cancel the police and explorers early enough that there was not charge for them. Next year the 4th falls on a Friday, allowing for a rain date.

* Benches at Tennis Courts:

thought to be a good idea...will discuss this further at a later date.

* Basketball Courts and Tennis Courts:

Lisa will contact M & M and have them look at both and give an estimate as to what may need to be done for next year's budget planning. Backboards for the Basketball Courts were also discussed briefly. C.J. will look into this further.

* Change of Parks and Rec Office Hours:

Lisa requested her office hours be cut back to 12:30-4:30. Presently the 4:30-5:30 hour is very quiet – with no business being conducted. The Commissioners agreed.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

C.J. Kersten reported:

* Happy, Healthy and Safe School Year to all our students!

VICE-CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Sheila Anson reported:

* Happy Birthday, C.J. !!!

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene, Clerk