

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
AUGUST 13, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of the Commission was held at Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. with the following in attendance:

Robert Ferrigno (Presiding)  
Kenneth Martin  
Nancy Walsh

Anthony Chmielewski  
Vin Lipinski

Also, Dmitri Paris, Park Superintendent  
Mary Markham, Recreation Director

Guests: Jim Fracker, 50 Harborside Drive, Milford, AYSO  
Pam Georgas, 117 Broadway, TNAC  
Joan Dosky, 20 Quaker Lane, Trumbull United Soccer  
Sharon Watson, 42 Peaceful Valley Road, Trumbull United Soccer President  
Don Watson, 54 Larkspur Drive, Conservation Commission  
Joanne Parsons, 248 Pinewood Trail, Conservation Commission  
John Egan, 575/585 White Plains Road, Christian Heritage School  
Ted Chase, 27 Frances Street, Tr. Youth Lacrosse  
Gary Beers, 88 Meadow Road West, Trumbull Babe Ruth League

Public Comments:

Jim Fracker, (American Youth Soccer Organization):

Presented their Fall Schedule, Data Sheet of Organization, Profit and Loss Statement, Background Check Policy, Certificate of Insurance and IRS Non Profit Determination letter. They use Kaechele Complex except for Saturday mornings. He said they indicated their game times and which quadrant of Kaechele for each they would like to use. They have used THS field in the past.

Commissioner Lipinski commented that in the Fall Season, THS is tight with lacrosse and field hockey scheduled.

Mr. Fracker said they would only need scheduling for two games at THS. He reviewed Field Expenses and Awards and Volunteer Recognition portions of the Profit and Loss report.

Commissioner Lipinski mentioned that parking is tight on Saturdays at Kaechele and suggested they locate the Ice Cream Truck to a new location to release the two parking spaces the truck is currently taking up.

Mr. Fracker noted that they do have 5 handicapped parking spaces designated.

Pam Georgas, Trumbull Nature and Arts Commission:

They had to cancel their Geocaching Program this summer due to inclement weather and requested a new date for this program as September 16, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., to be held at the same location of Old Mine Park. There are 20 boxes placed in the parks as an Eagle Scout Project. Listed on Town and TNAC web sites about Geocaching. They are not placed in remote areas or the mine area itself.

They request permission to host a second program on September 16<sup>th</sup> at Old Mine Park which is a Nature in the Park natural materials art class, with materials photographed and then dissembled. Program is limited to 15 children. \$15/\$20 fee per child.

John Dosky and Sharon Watson, Trumbull United Soccer:

- Have approximately 300 players for the fall season, late August to November.
- Kaechele: Saturdays from 2:00 p.m. until dark and Sundays from 10:00 a.m. until dark.
- Kaechele: Saturday afternoons from 2:15 to 4:00 p.m., for the special needs Top Soccer Program.
- Old Mine Park: Monday to Friday from 3:00 p.m. until dark beginning August 26<sup>th</sup> through November 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Indian Ledge #4: Over-flow practices, Monday through Friday afternoons from 3:00 p.m. to dusk.
- Indian Ledge #2 (Turf Field) on Saturdays from Noon (when AYSO finishes) and on Sundays from 10:00 a.m. on for older teams.
- Would be willing to play later for more field time and accommodate scheduling concerns by using the lights at Indian Ledge #2; but, lighting fee needs to be determined.
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Chairman noted that the Recreation Director needs to balance all the requests and accomplish scheduling.

Don Watson and Joanne Parsons, Conservation Commission Members:

Mr. Watson thanked the Commission and especially the Park Superintendent for all the work done in completing the recent Buffer Zone Project at Old Mine Park. It was a \$26,000 grant project and there was much necessary labor and machine time. They did have a volunteer day to help with the planting.

He went on to discuss a proposed Riveredge Landscape Improvements Project. The Project is an area restoration one to improve the sheet flow runoff from the river. Project would remove existing pavement and replace with lawn, add a shrub border buffer and woodland trees with six parking spaces. If the grant were to be approved, the proposed improvements will be under the direct supervision and oversight of the Park Superintendent. The proposed project will improve the aesthetic, recreational and environmental qualities of the entry site to the park. The Grant request is in the amount of \$65,000; 60% Deed Grant, 40% in-kind Trumbull cost share. He distributed copies of the Proposal which will be submitted to the Greater Bridgeport Regional Council for presentation to the State DEEP for consideration. He asked that this Commission write a letter of endorsement to be included with the Grant Application. The Director of Public Works and Town Engineer have review the project proposal as well. There will be no time deadline with the Project so work can be accomplished over time and at a time when other park needs can be

Park Superintendent said this is a project he endorses because it one which we as a department would have to complete at some future date without the benefit of grant contribution.

John Egan, Director of Athletics, Christian Heritage School:

Presented their fall schedule of facility requests. Their schedule provides for Middle School Girls; Middle School Boys, Girls Varsity and Boys Varsity. They will appreciate being worked into our scheduling of facilities at Indian Ledge or other field and understand they will not get all the field scheduling they request. They play right after school, Trumbull United plays after dinner. They only use Kaechele field when there are two games at one time. They participate in tournament program only if they make it to tournament play.

They reciprocate whenever asked and have their gym reserved for the Trumbull Recreation Basketball program every Thursday evening.

Joan Doskey noted that Christian Heritage recently provided new nets at the Indian Ledge Turf Field.

Commissioner Martin commented that Christian Heritage is a private league; but, understands it is a school in town.

Ted Chase, Trumbull Youth Lacrosse Treasurer:

Presented their field requests for the 2012 fall season. Reviewed their program and dates requested from September 16 through November. They request use of the Pit (or any other space) on Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. THS Turf Field is needed for 4 hours when available. They have completed their background checks. Their financials and insurance are current. Their request varies slightly from last season because they have more girls added. They have 200 plus players. Fee will be \$60 this year. Sports Zone needs to be paid in advance.

Gary Beers and Mike Curley, Babe Ruth League representative:

League would like approval for them to contract out reconstruction of the Babe Ruth field at Unity Park with the project to begin on October 15, 2012 and be completed no later than November 15, 2012. He presented their Bid Specifications Sheet for the project which involves removal and disposal of infield sod and clay, grading of the infield, replacing the current irrigation system, installing 100% new clay, laying sod on the infield including transition areas surrounding the field. Additionally, the bull pens including catching areas will be rebuilt.

Superintendent felt the irrigation system should not be replaced; but, simply adjust the heads. Discussion on #6 of the specs "Installing linear French drainage boxers at the front edge of the first and third base dugouts" ensued and Mike Curley said he thought the French drains were planned to be removed from the bid. Superintendent said that drainage is needed to adequately remove the accumulating water from that area and this item in the specs needs to be further researched to move water as far away from field as you can.

Chairman noted that with previous construction projects, Commissioners met with them and the contractor to set the specs to prescribe various materials requirements ie. type of turf, sprinkler heads, grass seed, fertilizer, etc. as well as contours, grading It goes well beyond just rebuilding.

Commissioner Lipinski suggested because of the time of year and fall weather conditions that they begin their project earlier. Why wait until October 15<sup>th</sup> to begin?

Chairman suggested that a site meeting is necessary to fine-tune the bid specs. Turf sod needs to mend-in. November 15<sup>th</sup> may be too late in the season depending on weather. If a field is not ready for play in the spring, we will lock it down.

Mr. Beers stated that they cannot begin earlier, they need the time to coordinate their fund raisers and get their contract payment schedule in place.

Commissioner Lipinski additionally suggested that they hold off for another year to get funding and bid specifications clarified. We have been discussing this project for the past 18 months. It needs to be more defined. Have to insure they have enough money to do the project and any concerns which arise during construction.

Consensus was that the field needs work. If they finish October 15<sup>th</sup> and we get a snow the sod will be lost.

Chairman questioned if they are prepared to cancel Fall Ball or move it to another location so the project can begin earlier.

Mr. Beers said he could not address that question.

Mr. Curley stated that feed back is that they do not want to cancel Fall Ball on that field.

Chairman stated that irrigation failures not only give us a problem in the fall but in the spring when we want to open fields. If we turn on the system, which is throughout the complex, get a freeze and have failures we impact the whole fields complex both seasons.

Pop Warner:

Recreation Director presented Pop Warner Proposal for Fall Scheduling.

**MOTION** by Mr. Lipinski, second by Mr. Chmielewski, unanimously passed to close Guest Portion of the Agenda and return to the order of the Agenda.

**MOTION** by Mr. Chmielewski to accept the minutes of the July 9, 2012 meeting, second by Mrs. Walsh, and passed with one abstention (Mr. Lipinski, as he was not present for the meeting).

Fall Field Scheduling Requests:

**MOTION** by Mr. Lipinski, second by Mrs. Walsh, unanimously passed to approve fall field use by Trumbull Youth Lacrosse with available field scheduling determined by the Recreation Director

**MOTION** by Mr. Lipinski, second by Mrs. Walsh, passed with one opposed (Mr. Martin) to approve fall field use by Christian Heritage School with available field scheduling determined by the Recreation Director.

**MOTION** by Mr. Martin, second by Mr. Chmielewski, unanimously passed to approve fall field use by Trumbull United Soccer with available field scheduling determined by the Recreation Director.

**MOTION** by Mrs. Walsh, second by Mr. Chmielewski, unanimously passed to approve fall field use by American Youth Soccer Organization with available field scheduling determined by the Recreation Director.

Chairman reported that it is his understanding that Trumbull United Soccer plans to present a check in the amount of \$2,000 to the American Youth Soccer Organization to off-set wear and tear of fields at the Kaechele Complex.

**MOTION** by Mr. Martin, second by Mr. Chmielewski, and unanimously passed to approve the Conservation Commission's request to submit a Grant Application for a Riveredge Landscape Improvements Project at Old Mine Park as presented in the amount of \$65,000 (60% DEEP Grant, 40% in-kind Trumbull cost share) to the Greater Bridgeport Regional Council for presentation to the State DEEP for consideration as well as submit a letter of endorsement to be included with said Grant Application.

**MOTION** by Mr. Chmielewski, second by Mr. Lipinski, and passed with two abstaining (Mr. Martin and Mrs. Walsh) in response to Babe Ruth League request to go to bid and begin an extensive project to rebuild the Babe Ruth League at Unity Park, the construction project is approved to begin in August, 2013, following approval of scope of work, materials and contractor by the Parks and Recreation Commission by its June, 2013, meeting.

**MOTION** by Mr. Martin, second by Mr. Chmielewski, unanimously passed to approve the Trumbull Nature and Arts Commission request to rescheduled their Geocaching Program cancelled for inclement weather to September 16, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., at Old Mine Park.

The Parks and Recreation Commission to request TNAC to submit a placement inventory of the 20 geocaching boxes placed throughout the parks system.

**MOTION** by Mr. Chmielewski, second by Mr. Martin, unanimously passed to approve a Trumbull Nature and Arts Commission request to host a Nature in the Park natural materials art class with materials photographed and then dissembled at Old Mine Park on September 16, 2012.

Miscee Brook Park:

Pathway has been leveled from two directions. An over- waterway pedestrian decking-bridge needs to be constructed. This will need a Wetlands Permit.

**MOTION** by Mr. Martin, second by Mr. Lipinski, unanimously passed to have the Superintendent have the Engineering Department prepare plans and proceed with a request to the Inland Wetlands and Water Courses Commission approval for a cross-over deck at Mischee Brook Park stream.

Superintendent's Report:

- The Utility Company now in process of installing new transformers at Beach Pool.
- White Plains Road Barn relocation has been stalled because of the need to remove two vehicles on the property; one with a blown-engine. Superintendent working to get the vehicle moved from the location.
- Clearing significant weed and poison ivy growth throughout our trails and along Church Hill Road.
- Rebuilding the Amphitheatre stairs. Replacing the stone steps.
- The Annual Concert is planned for September 22<sup>nd</sup>. There will be no parking at Indian Ledge Park because of road maintenance projects in that area. All attendees will be shuttled in.
- Keeping up with standard operations.
- Indian Ledge Playground equipment now twenty years old. We need to request replacement be incorporated in the Town's Five-Year Capitol Plan.
- Because the Beautification Commission has been abolished, our Department will now manage the Adopt-A-Green Program.

Recreation Director Report:

- Because Hillcrest Pool is closed until September 15<sup>th</sup>, Pisces has requested we keep Tashua Pool open until that date. Superintendent reviewing manpower, chemicals, and monitoring requirements for the two-week period.
- The Recreation Program season-end picnic is planned for Wednesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at Unity Park all day with approximately 200 children expected that day.

**CONSENSUS** to adjourn at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Joan E. Plouffe  
Clerical Administrative Assistant

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