

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
DECEMBER 10, 2012**

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

Robert Ferrigno (Presiding)
Marie Petitti
Richard Moore
Vincent Lipinski

Anthony Chmielewski
Nancy Walsh
Nicholas Bragano

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

Guests:

Doug Imri, 32 Ridgeview Avenue, Trumbull Little League
Andy Elias, 410 Tashua Road, Trumbull Little League

Public Comments:

Doug Imri mentioned that following the passing of their President Jeff Blueweiss, his family requested donations be made to Trumbull Little League. Little League has received close to \$11,000, and donations continue to be received. In honor of Jeff Blueweiss, with the donations received Little League would like to construct a Press Box and wireless Score Board at Unity Park Little League #2 field similar to the ribbed-block buildings on #3 and #4 fields in time for the spring season opening date. It would be a two story building to fit the available space behind the field with storage on the lower level and press box on the upper level. There will be no plumbing. Only a basic air conditioner on second level in-season. They would begin construction late February, early March 2013.

Superintendent noted that power would necessarily come underground from the nearest pole (probably by the tennis courts) which will be a cost factor for them.

They asked the process to proceed.

- Conceptual approval for the project from the Parks and Recreation Commission.
- Present architectural plans and specifications for approval by the Parks Superintendent and the Parks Recreation Commission.
- Plans and Specifications submitted for approval and permits from the appropriate Town agencies; Town Engineer, Building Official and Fire Marshal.
- Construction with oversight by the Parks Superintendent.

THS Varsity Swimming & Diving Team and Nature Commission representatives, though on the Agenda, did not attend the meeting. Nature Commission will attend in January. Recreation Director stated that the swimmers will wait until next season's scheduling meeting.

MOTION by Mr. Chmielewski, second Mr. Moore, unanimously passed to return to the order of the Agenda.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

MOTION by Mr. Chmielewski, second by Mr. Lipinski, unanimously passed nominating Robert Ferrigno to continue as Chairman. Vote unanimously in favor.

MOTION by Mr. Chmielewski, second by Mr. Bragano, unanimously passed nominating Kevin Bellows as Vice Chairman. Vote unanimously in favor.

MOTION by Mr. Chmielewski, second by Mr. Lipinski, unanimously passed adopting the second Monday of each month as the regular meeting date for the Parks and Recreation Commission Meetings for 2013, with meetings being held the following Monday, or a date to be determined, if the regular meeting date falls on a holiday or must necessarily be rescheduled.

MOTION by Mr. Lipinski, second by Mr. Chmielewski, unanimously passed approving the Minutes of the November 13, 2012, meeting as distributed.

Old Business:

Discussion held concerning the current Events Policy and Fees Schedule dated July 14, 2008 including Performance Bond requirement for non-town sponsored events at parks facilities. An amendment will be prepared to bring the policy current with the criteria of the adopted Facilities Use Policy. Finalization of an amended Events Policy and Fees Schedule to coordinate with the Facilities Use Policy will be reviewed for adoption at our next regular Parks and Recreation Commission meeting and then forwarded to the Town Attorney for legal review.

Budget:

Superintendent will prepare the Parks and Recreation's Budget Proposal including items noted at the November meeting (additional full-time Park Ranger, cost of a software computer program to cover Park Stickers and a Back Hoe for tree removal). However, Superintendent indicated that even though he will be including the Software Computer Program for Park Stickers in his budget request; he is requesting that this Commission request a Supplemental Appropriation to cover the cost to purchase this computer program prior to the new season as budget funding will delay the sticker distribution to the 2014 season. He said it is most important to get the resident parks sticker distribution current again and in time for the upcoming season. Justifications for budget items will be provided Commissioners prior to budget review sessions.

Superintendent and Recreation Director will finalize the cost to purchase of the computer program and distribution after which a request for a Supplemental Appropriation will be submitted to the Board of Finance.

Superintendent reported that he and Commissioner Martin (Rail Trail Sub-Committee appointee) met with a DEEP representative concerning the storm damaged fallen scout-built tree-bridge over the Pequonnock River to Indian Ledge Park which bikers unsuccessfully tried to repair which must be dismantled and security concerns with non-residents crossing from the Trail to the park was discussed. Commissioner Lipinski expressed concern with a meeting held without notice to all Commissioners. Superintendent stated that it was simply an alert of the damaged bridge to DEEP with security concerns voiced.

Old Business:

Commissioner Lipinski provided a photo of the posted Dog Park sign at Indian Ledge Park which states in large lettering that **Only Neutered Spayed Dogs Allowed**. A review of the current on-line Rules for Use of the Dog Park, effective January 2, 2012, states as a first item *Unaltered and aggressive dogs are prohibited from the park at all times*.

The TDOG President met with the Parks and Recreation Commission at its October 15, 2012, meeting. At that meeting it was decided by the Commission that the Dog Park doesn't presently have a separate area for neutered and non-neutered dogs; and, if decided to require this, the Commission can add this requirement to the rules.

MOTION by Mr. Lipinski, second by Mr. Chmielewski, and passed (one opposed, Mrs. Walsh) that a Cease and Desist letter be sent to the TDOG Organization requiring they adjust their sign and rules wording to eliminate the references to Only Neutered Spayed Dogs Allowed and Unaltered dogs are prohibited from the park.

Superintendent reported his department have removed dead limbs on oak trees at the park and completed additional clean-up of the area.

New Business:

Commissioner Petitti received a request from Samantha Rosenberg. She is a teacher in the Bridgeport School System and would like to take her student to Old Mine Park and so a dig to coincide with their Rocks and Minerals unit for Science. She asks if we have a program to provide for this.

We shall notify Samantha Rosenberg that there is no current program to allow digs at Old Mine Park.

Little League Request:

MOTION by Mr. Chmielewski, second by Mr. Moore, unanimously passed to approve in concept Little League's construction of a Press Box Building and wireless score board behind the Unity Park Little League #2 field with submission of architectural plans and specifications for review and approval by the Parks Superintendent and Parks and Recreation Commission prior to processing through the appropriate Town agencies; Town Engineer, Building Official and Fire Marshal.

Trumbull Day Event:

It was brought to the Commission's attention that a newly appointed Trumbull Day Commission are soon to have their organizational meeting and there may be consideration to returning the Trumbull Day Event to the THS/Hillcrest School field area. Superintendent noted that since the last Trumbull Day Event at this location several years ago, the field area has been rehabilitated with a much difference standard than before at great expense and is now maintained through a Maintenance Contract. It is no longer an open field area. Having a Trumbull Day Event at this location will now greatly impact the condition of the field and the Maintenance Contract in place bringing great additional expense to the Town following an event such as this.

It was agreed this Commission will alert the reorganized Trumbull Day Commission to the current status of the Hillcrest Field and suggest they revisit consideration of Hillcrest Field as a Trumbull Day Event location.

MOTION to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. by Mr. Chmielewski, second by Mr. Lipinski, unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted:

Joan E. Plouffe, Clerical Administrative Asst.

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