

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
JANUARY 13, 2014

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)	Kevin Bellows
Richard Moore	Lee DeFusco
Nancy Walsh	Vin Lipinski

Also,
Park Superintendent Dmitri Paris
Recreation Director Mary Markham

MOTION by Dr. Bellows, second by Mr. DeFusco, approving the minutes of the December 9, 2013 meeting with a typo correction to the date of upcoming yearly meetings to read **2014** rather than **2013**. (One abstention as Mr. Lipinski was not present for the meeting.)

Superintendent's Report:

- Reported he is reviewing his budget proposal with the First Selectman this week. Overtime increase mentioned at the December meeting was clarified. The Parks Department is a seven-days a week maintenance department and utilizes overtime to complete maintenance and safety responsibilities ie. restrooms, pools, storm damage, snow plowing, opening entrance ways, etc; as well as Rail Trail, Library, EMS, Town Hall Green duties, etc.

Union Contract allows employees to opt for time-off rather than pay for overtime pay. The 2012/2013 budget was cut by 3%, most from the overtime allocation in anticipation of employees opting for days off. He is requesting reinstatement of that reduction in the Overtime Account to avoid a shortfall if employees opt for payment. Any remaining funds in the overtime account at the end of the fiscal year would go back to the General Fund.

He is also requesting:

An increase in the hourly rate for part-time rangers to be commensurate with life guards rate.
Replacement rack body truck, 5-year lease.

- Currently involved with dredging of ponds.
- Holiday decorating completed on Town Hall Green.
- Cleaning out Hurricane Sandy debris at Island Brook Park. The cold spell allowed them to get in on solid ground.
- Begun work on the reassembly of the historic barn at Abraham Nichols Park as well as trimming apple orchard and roses.

Recreation Director's Report:

- Currently completing spring and summer planning. Arranging for school permits.
- Hiring and scheduling bands for the Summer Concert Program.
- With Mallet Grant purchased a new Air Hockey Table for the Teen Center.
- Recreation Department sells reduced movie tickets for \$8 (\$12 at theater) with \$1 going to the Teen Center. Earned \$1,000 over the holiday season for the Teen Center.
- Meeting with First Selectman this week on budget. Budget remains stable except for wages.

New Business:

Mr. Moore noticed that during the snow storms the Twin Brooks gate to the parking lot was closed and questioned if it should be open to accommodate sledding on the hill.

Superintendent said hill was closed to sledding this season because of the fall rehabilitation project at that location. Rangers are attempting to intercept and keep everyone off the hill this winter. The sledding hill at Indian Ledge is available; and, the roadway is opened as quickly as possible to accommodate those wishing to sled.

Old Business:

Stickers

Chairman reported he has made notification to the First Selectman of the Commission's discussion and plan to charge a nominal fee for Parks Stickers distribution this coming season.

Discussion:

- 2013 Trial Vehicle Park Stickers distribution and follow-up revealed a heavy non-resident use of Trumbull Parks System facilities.
- Vehicles in the parks system not displaying the 2014 sticker will be subject to receiving a \$25 fine.
- Would those without stickers be ticketed? Yes, Police Department administers. If ticket not paid, Recreation Department would have the record and refuse sticker until ticket is paid.
- A release will be prepared in time for season distribution.
- Nanny Passes require relationship to resident, license number, days of use and payment for second pass if more than one Nanny.
- This is not a new policy but a reintroduction of the past parks sticker fee.

MOTION by Mr. Moore, second Dr. Bellows, unanimously passed to approve a fee of \$5 for the 2014 Trumbull Vehicle Stickers, the cost established for procurement, administration and distribution of the vehicle sticker which permits use of Town parks for Trumbull residents.

Anthony Chmielewski Memorial Plate:

Mr. Defusco will contact Greco Industries in Danbury to have a plate made honoring Anthony and Norma Chmielewski to be installed on the Memorial Stone at Twin Brooks Park. A tree will be planted this spring in honor of their services to the Trumbull community.

MOTION to adjourn at 7:30 p.m. by Dr. Bellows, second by Mr. Lipinski, unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted:

Joan E. Plouffe, Clerical Administrative Asst.

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MOTIONS

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