

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MARCH 10, 2014

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)
Kevin Bellows
Lee DeFusco
Nancy Walsh
Nicholas Bragano

Richard Moore
Vin Lipinski
Marie Petitti
Mike Travisano

Also,
Dmitri Paris, Parks Superintendent
Mary Markham, Recreation Director
Robert Nicola, Town Attorney

Guests:
Mike Fedell, 117 Pinewood Trail, Sr. City Baseball League
Elizabeth Parenzan, 26 Meadow View Drive, TRACK BMX
John Egan, Athletic Director Christian Heritage School, 585 White Plains Road
Lori Lewis, 43 Columbine Drive, Trumbull United Soccer

Public Comments:

Mike Fedell, Sr. City Baseball League:

Gave their form to the Recreation Director. League doesn't start until May. Will have all required information by April or May. When complete, he will turn it in to the Recreation Director. They use THS varsity and JV fields. Visitor teams come from Milford, Stratford, Bridgeport, Fairfield, Danbury and Wilton (Trumbull). Players are primarily in college and come home for the summer as well as ages 27/28 players who still play hard ball. It's a good league, a competitive league. They will have eight teams this year. No fee. League pays a fee of \$2,800 (by the game and for lights) plus uniforms and baseballs.

Elizabeth Parenzan, TRACK BMX:

Presented their Income and Expenses Report, 501c3 Certificate, Member Registration list, Insurance Certificate and Volunteer Background Screening Report. They will not have a National Race in Trumbull this year. Practices are Mondays, Tuesday are race events, Saturdays for grooming. They still need to have the Town listed as an additional insured on their insurance certificate. The point person for TRACK is Don Cote.

John Egan, Athletic Director, Christian Heritage School:

Provided their spring field request and schedule. Christian Heritage enjoys a long relationship with the Town and Recreation Board and all the organizations they share facilities with. They are grateful for that cooperation without which their athletic department would be a lot smaller. Their request is similar to last year. They have a few more baseball games. They realize the fields won't be released as early as they indicate.

Recreation Director said their reciprocal use of facilities has been very helpful to our programs and worked out very well.

Lori Lewis, Trumbull United Soccer:

Their binder needs to be updated. It will be the same as in the past. Top Soccer at Kaechele Complex on Saturday afternoons. They use Old Mine Park (practices) and Indian Ledge (games) from 3:00 p.m. to dark Mondays through Fridays and Premier teams Friday evenings and Saturday afternoons. Travel Team is on Sundays beginning at Noon. They have 16 travel teams, four premier (College Age) teams. Season begins begin the end of March (April 6/13 because of winter weather), until 3rd weekend in June.

MOTION by Dr. Bellows, second Atty. DeFusco, unanimously passed to close Public Comments and return to the order of the Agenda.

MOTION by Mr. Bragano, second by Dr. Bellows, unanimously passed approving the minutes of the February 18, 2014 meeting with the following corrections:

Doug Imri, Trumbull Little League and Babe Ruth:

(Page 3, Paragraph 2, 1st Line) Presented their tax returns, field maintenance on-track with Tarrantino, the 501c3 and insurance certificate in the TLL packet. As they get closer to the season they will provide the background checks and the concessions health and insurance requirements.

(Page 3, Paragraph 3) Little League, over 13/18.

(Page 3, Upon question 4th item) Mr. Lipinski questioned the status of the Unity Two Press Box and Scoreboard. In response Mr. Imri stated that the scoreboard was installed and will work via wireless from the press box. However, at this time the press box is not ready as he is looking at prefabricated buildings at this time. When complete, the press box will have electricity but not water.

(Page 3, 5th item) Commissioner DeFusco questioned about the lanyards and coaches ID badges that TLL used 3-4 years ago and if that policy would ever be used again and Mr. Imri responded by saying they are going back to that practice.

(Page 4, Capitol Improvements include:

Combine 1st and 2nd bullets:

Truck #235 transports snow blowers

(Page 5, 4th Paragraph)Gene Cellini, Pop Warner Football, arrived at 8:35 p.m. because of a late train from New York. Briefly spoke about Pop Warner's fall request ensuring we would have budget, P&L, Insurance, and rosters in March or April. Theirs is a fall season. He brought to the Commission's attention that there has been a petition circulated for portable lights at Madison Middle School. The Petition was mentioned to the First Selectman at the Pop Warner Banquet several weeks ago.

MOTION by Dr. Bellows, second by Mr. Moore, unanimously passed approving the minutes of the March 3, 2014 Special Meeting Minutes.

Old Business:

At a Special Meeting on March 3, 2014, the Parks and Recreation Commission discussed with the Town Attorney in Executive Session the request of Trumbull Nature and Arts Center, Inc. for construction of a Nature Center at Old Mine Park.

MOTION by Mr. Lipinski, second by Dr. Travisano, and passed 8 in favor, 1 opposed (Mr. Moore) that the Parks and Recreation Commission (COMMISSION) consider in principal the request by the Nature and Arts Center Commission (TNAC) and Patrons of the Trumbull Nature & Arts Center, Inc. (Patrons) that they be allowed to construct a Nature and Arts Center (CENTER) at Old Mine Park at such location on Corporate Drive selected by the Commission subject to the following conditions.

1. The Commission, and the Commission alone, shall solely determine both the location and the size of the parcel on Corporate Drive. Said determinations shall be final and if it is not acceptable to TNAC and Patrons this motion and any rights it may have granted shall be null and void.
2. If TNAC and Patrons accept said location and parcel, TNAC and Patrons shall execute a Ground Lease on or before July 1, 2014 with the Commission which shall contain the following terms and conditions:
 - (a) Patrons shall assume full responsibility to secure the funds required to construct the Center and maintain it thereafter.
 - (b) TNAC and Patrons shall submit a business plan to the Commission within ninety (90) days of the execution of the Ground Lease which outlines the design and cost of the proposed Center and how it will be funded and maintained. The Commission at its sole discretion may accept or reject said design. Failure to submit business plan within said ninety (90) days shall render this motion and any rights it may have granted null and void.
 - (c) TNAC and Patrons shall comply with all State and local building regulations and fire codes when constructing the Center.
 - (d) TNAC and Patrons shall not commence construction unless and until TNAC and Patrons have satisfied the Commission that the necessary funding is in place to ensure completion of the Center and its maintenance thereafter. The Commission shall be the sole determiner of the adequacy of the funding.
 - (e) If funding is secured to the satisfaction of the Commission, TNAC and Patrons agree that they shall commit to a date to commence construction and a date certain by which it shall be completed which is satisfactory to the Commission.

- (f) Commission and/or the Town of Trumbull (Town) shall not be obligated to assume responsibility and liability for the Center if, at any time, TNAC or Patrons become either dormant and/or unable to provide the monetary resources to maintain the facility on a self-sustaining basis.
 - (g) Patrons shall be solely responsible to maintain its 501c3 designation to the satisfaction of the Internal Revenue Service. Loss of said 501c3 designation by the Patrons at any time before or after the Center is constructed shall render the Ground Lease null and void.
 - (h) TNAC and/or Patrons shall be solely and fully responsible at their own expense for all the costs or construction for the Center and shall also be solely responsible to repair, improve, replace and/or maintain the Center.
 - (i) Under no circumstances shall any monies, assets, grants and/or other assets of the Commission or the Town be used for the construction of the Center or for any repairs, replacements, improvements and/or maintenance of the Center.
3. TNAC and Patrons shall not negotiate with other nature centers or similar organizations during the Term of the Ground Lease. Such negotiations shall be considered an act of defiance and render the Ground Lease null and void.
 4. TNAC and Patrons agree that at such time as the Ground Lease terminates or becomes null and void that the Center shall become the property of the Commission and/or the Town. TNAC and Patrons agree to sign all documentation necessary to effectuate said transfer of ownership.
 5. The relocation of the Trumbull Nature and Arts facilities and operation to Old Mine Park shall be further subject to the approval and authorization by the Trumbull Town Council to make such relocation.
 6. TNAC and Patrons shall abide by all the rules and regulations of the Parks Facilities Use Policy and shall receive prior approval from the Parks and Recreation Commission before conducting any programs on any park properties or before using any of the parks system facilities including, but not limited to, Old Mine Park.

Chairman noted that Pop Warner League and Pisces are fall programs and will provide information at later dates.

Chairman commented that the Commission and Recreation Director played an active role in resolving the Hillcrest Pool scheduling problems of the past and we will continue to monitor required information. Recreation Director said both the Pisces Organization and their new coach are working in conjunction with her pool scheduling.

Recreation Director's Report:

- She will provide a spread sheet covering the Status of Facilities Users Required Documents prior to scheduling.
- Stickers are in with 1,500 on-hand. Prepared to begin distribution. Received some complaints concerning the fee.

Budget:

Superintendent noted that the budget approval process is still in progress. He has met with the Board of Finance and Town Council Finance Committee.

Atty. DeFusco retired from the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Old Business:

MOTION by Mr. Moore, second by Mr. Lipinski, unanimously passed to accept the Sub-Committees Assignments listing as follows:

(Chairman ex-officio to all committees)

Abraham Nichols
Richard Moore
Mike Travisano

Aldo (Off Madison Ave.)
Vin Lipinski

Tashua School Field
Marie Petitti

Robert G. Beach Memorial Park
Richard Moore
Vin Lipinski

Great Oak Park
Vin Lipinski

THS/Hillcrest Fields
Kevin Bellows

Indian Ledge
Nick Bragano
Nancy Walsh

Island Brook Park
Lee DeFusco
Kevin Bellows

Twin Brooks Park
Richard Moore

Jane Ryan School Field
Lee DeFusco

Joan Estates Playground
Nancy Walsh

Unity Park
Vin Lipinski
Kevin Bellows
Lee DeFusco

Kaatz Pond
Nancy Walsh
Nick Bragano

Kaechele Complex
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Long Hill Adm. Field
Lee DeFusco

Madison Ave. Ballfield
Nick Bragano
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Nothnagle Field
Richard Moore
Mike Travisano

Undeveloped: ALL
Rail Trail
Davidow Park
Middlebrook Park
Gunther Park (Pondview Pond
Strawberry Brook (off Main)

Old Mine Park
Nancy Walsh
Lee DeFusco

Tashua Recreation Area
Nick Bragano
Marie Petitti

Superintendent's Report:

- Doing a lot of pruning...roses, dogwoods, grasses.
- New signs completed.
- First floor of historic barn up at Abraham Nichols.
- Bill Property:
 - Cleared, stumped and chipped three/four acres of saplings.
 - House in good shape.
 - Will become Ranger Station.
 - Installed new deck to access front door.
 - Cleaned out interior space.

Recreation Director's Report:

- Scheduling concerts for Town Hall Green.
- Program sign-ups begin March 31st.
- Will beginning Sticker distribution.
- Office space changes have occurred:
 - Youth Department moved to first floor.
 - Internal Auditor moved from Town Hall to second floor, next to her office.

Commissioner Lipinski commented on a great job being done with the Basketball Program. Gyms are filled to capacity.

Mr. Moore questioned when we will open Twin Brooks Drive which is still closed due to icy conditions. Superintendent said Twin Brooks and Island Brook still have patches of ice and will be opened once ice clears.

League Spring Scheduling Requests:

MOTION by Mr. Lipinski, second Mr. Moore, unanimously passed to approve Sr. City League request for field scheduling, subject to field availability and Facilities Use Policy requirements being met.

MOTION by Dr. Bellows, second Mrs. Petitti, unanimously passed to approve Christian Heritage School request for field scheduling, subject to field availability and Facilities Use Policy requirements being met.

MOTION by Mr. Bragano, second by Mrs. Walsh, unanimously passed to approve TRACK BMX request for scheduling, subject to Facilities Use Policy requirements being met.

MOTION by Dr. Bellows, second Dr. Travisano, unanimously passed to approve Trumbull United Soccer request for field scheduling, subject to field availability and Facilities Use Policy requirements being met.

MOTION to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. by Dr. Bellows, second by Mr. Bragano and unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted:

Joan E. Plouffe
Clerical Adm. Asst.

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