

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**SEPTEMBER 12, 2016**

The regular monthly meeting of the Commission was convened at Town Hall at 7:05p.m. with the following in attendance:

Kevin Bellows (Presiding)  
Kenneth Martin  
Michael Travisano

Nancy Walsh  
Lee DeFusco

Also,  
Stuart McCarthy, Director of Parks and Recreation

No Public Comments

**MOTION** by Mr. Martin, second by Atty. DeFusco, and passed to accept the Minutes of the August 12, 2016 meeting.

Correspondence:

- Request from Spath Bjorkland Associates on behalf of 2207 and 2213 Huntington Turnpike to connect sewer lateral to existing sewer line in Mischee Brook Park.
- Director received a message from Justin Ramos, Trumbull High School non-resident student, requesting permission to play in the 2016 Fall Ball Babe Ruth League. Director responded advising him that Babe Ruth falls under the policies of the Parks and Recreation; and, those policies restrict participation to Trumbull residents only. This restriction applies regardless of the school attended. He noted that the Parks and Recreation Commission reviewed and affirmed this policy as recently as last year.

Director reported on Spath Bjorkland Associates request on behalf of 2207 and 2213 Huntington Turnpike. Request is to hook two lines from the subdivision of the contiguous property into the existing sewer line through the park which is 15 feet northerly off the property line. This is in lieu of digging down 20 feet across Huntington Tpke to complete a connection which would tie-up traffic for perhaps a two week period of installation. This proposal has been approved by the WPCA with restoration to be done according to our Superintendent's satisfaction. This permission does not require an easement. Town would not lose the assessment as this is determined by the house frontage on Huntington Tpke.

New Business:

Director reported...

- Tashua Pool was closed the last week of August and first of September during a hot spell earlier than planned due to a lack of staffing (college students back to school). Beach Pool remained open.
- Beach Pool sprinkler park issues continue and identified as with a line between the pump house and the sprinkler park. We will use Beach Pool Renovation resources to correct the line issues to allow for spring opening.
- Unity 2 and Babe Ruth fields are ready for sod. Accommodated all scheduling at the High School.
- Fall Festival: Had good weather and went well. Working on financial report...just about a break-even event. Fireworks great. Huge expense for Police, Fire, EMS uniformed personnel. With a developing history of this newly established event, needs can be adjusted. Added a quality Band for Friday night that was thought would attract more than it did...festival considered to be for youth. Rented portable stage from the Town of Stratford. Funding generated from the gate, beer and wine sales and a percent of the rides. Food trucks pay a fee which was reduced because vendors need to plan for fresh food and potential for bad weather conditions. Director is generally satisfied with the event and looks forward to comments.

- We have two new employees, both will be invited to the October meeting:
  - Recreation Program Manager, Dan Gagne, started about two weeks ago.
  - Park Ranger Steve Chapman started last Tuesday.
- Fall program registration started today. Our hope is this is the last in-house registration. Spring registration will be on-line.
- Thrilled to have staff back. Still waiting for Office Manager; Job Description and Salary Schedule changed and posted again. Hopefully, we will be testing for that position in the next few weeks.
- Office space will be reorganized. Credit Union is in the back office upstairs. Worked out very well. TYA not a presence but utilize storage space which will be relocated, Conference Room will be reconfigured for new use.
- Concessions, no complaints. There was an issue of hours at Tashua Pool. Opened later in the morning. We will continue to work with them. They have a long-term 10 year contract with an investment covering the installation of a Hood System at Tashua Pool. Director welcomes feed-back.
- Old Dyke Trail – driveway encroachment. Engineering staking property to identify property lines. Working with the Town Attorney for a resolution.
- Hedgehog Circle is being staked to identify Town's property line. Three or four unattractive vans are parking on the circle by the skating pond from property across the street.

Attorney DeFusco stated that he was at the Arts Festival as his sons were assisting with tent set-ups. Wind picked-up prior to start of the festival. People were holding onto tents. Had to lay the tents down during the heavy wind. They were not staked and he was told that stakes won't hold, but he felt that we should require that they be staked in the future.

Director explained that for this type tent there is a metal plate with small stakes which are placed in different directions. He indicated that he will take a look at the vendor application to be certain tents are required to be secured and vendor insurance a requirement.

**Action:**

**MOTION** by Atty. DeFusco, second by Dr. Travisano, unanimously passed that the Parks and Recreation Commission approves a request from Spath Bjorkland Associates on behalf of 2207 and 2213 Huntington Turnpike to connect sewer lateral to existing sewer line in Mischee Brook Park with all restoration of the area to be approved by the Parks Superintendent.

Park Assignments:

- Mrs. Walsh visited the Playground location at Indian Ledge and said the sandbox area needs to be cleaned-up. Director said the Purchase Order is going out this week and work will be schedule for late fall or first of spring. Sandbox area will be cleaned up.
- Movie Event at Indian Ledge is this coming Saturday.
- At Indian Ledge there was a birthday party in August with three or four vehicles damaged by vandalism. Stickers are not always required when sports are going on. No picnic permits are issued at Indian Ledge unless a reserved space; this was a pick-up party, it rained and they were under the pavilion.

Director noted:

- Turf Fields: Council voted on 5-year capital plan. Next year's projects go to them in November. We have two turf fields on that list...new second artificial soccer field at the high school and the replacement carpet on Indian Ledge field. Once approved and constructed, the result will be having three artificial turf fields in town. This is very important to the athletic programs.
- Tennis court project is a Board of Education project at THS.
- Rail Trail at Quarry Road project. In progress. No success with litter; condition really bad. The old quarry water hole (no swimming signs posted), graffiti, carry-in/carry-out policy being ignored, people using it not taking trash out. Rangers tried a practice to pass out trash bags which failed.
- Discussion on Quarry Road:
  - DEEP Ranger should be contacted on environmental/river contamination.
  - Chief Ranger now on duty; Police Dept. to be alerted.
  - Trail is a great multi-use facility...walkers, runners, bikers. We should seek technical enforcement from DEEP.

**MOTION** to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. by Mrs. Walsh, second by Dr. Travisano, unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted:

Joan E. Plouffe  
Clerical Adm. Asst.

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SEPTEMBER 12, 2016  
MOTIONS**

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