

PARK COMMISSION  
APRIL 13, 2009

The regular monthly meeting was held at 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall with the following in attendance:

Robert Ferrigno (Presiding)  
Joseph DeSabia  
Anthony Chmielewski

Kevin Bellows  
John Scippa

Also,  
Dmitri Paris, Park Superintendent

Guests:

Joe Forren, 6 Scott Lane, Trumbull Little Legion  
Taylor Buckley, 44 Bear Hill Road, Newtown, Prime Time Program  
David Negrero, 17 Woodbine Road, Woodbridge, Prime Time Program  
Pam Georgas, 117 Broadway Road, Nature Commission  
Ken Martin, 1676 Huntington Tpke, Historical Society  
Scout Zachary Voytek, Troop 67, 2020 Huntington Tpke.  
Scout Scott Shafer, Troop 67, 5 Friar Lane

Public Comments:

Joe Forren, Trumbull Little Legion:

Clarification of comment indicated in Park Commission minutes of March 9, 2009 that American Legion Post 141 has partnered with Little League to provide a travel team for ages 9-12 players. The new American Legion "Little Legion" travel program is supported by American Legion, Trumbull Babe Ruth and Trumbull Little League since it involves all Trumbull kids who play. Trumbull Little League, however, due to Little League International rules is not actually affiliated with the new League. Joe Forren, has resigned from Little League to head this new program.

Taylor Buckley and David Negrero on behalf of Prime Time Program, a 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade mentoring program sponsored by the Black Rock Congregational Church. They are requesting a location to conduct a walk-a-thon on Saturday, May 30, for three to four hours, with 100 in attendance.

Chairman discussed utilizing the Rail Trail for the walk. Permitting is through the State of Connecticut Rangers Station located at Sherwood Island.

Pam Georgas, Trumbull Nature Commission:

As significant renovations will be taking place at the Nature Center this fall which may prevent holding some of their programs, they are requesting permission to utilize the parks system for some programs.

These will include:

- Catch and Release fishing on May 9<sup>th</sup>. They will conduct this program at the Nature Center; but because they have a waiting list, they are requesting use of Old Mine Park or another suggested watercourse as a supplemental location for 18/20 youngsters from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Beginning first week in October, they will be conducting a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Habitat field trip program for Trumbull elementary schools. They request use of Twin Brooks Park which most closely simulates what they have at the Center for approximately six days, 3 ½ hours, 100 children per session. Children brought in by bus from the schools.
- Rocks and Minerals field trip use of Old Mine Park as well as general park use for their Saturday programs.... walks through parks, etc.. They plan three or four per year.

Chairman mentioned Kaatz Pond as one utilized by many of the scout troops for their fishing derbies and that this would perhaps be best for the May 9<sup>th</sup> event if not already scheduled. The Veterans' building is closed unless arrangements are made directly with them for lavatory facilities use.

Ken Martin, Trumbull Historical Society with Scout Zak Voytek, Troop 67, Eagle Project at Abraham Nichols Park (Wood's Estate):

Mr. Martin explained the Historical Society would be appreciative of Zak's proposed Eagle Project to open and clear the old Tannery path which begins at Shelton Road and winds its way up the hill toward the orchard.

Eagle Scout Candidate Zak Voytek explained in detail his proposed project to cut and clear brush and open up the historic path as well as wood chip the path. He will supervise the construction and installation of two park benches along the new path. The first to overlook the apple orchard and the other to be placed at the Shelton Road entrance. The path is approximately ¼ mile long and would be cleared 40 inches wide. There is a base path already established. There is a lot of brush in the lower level and there will be a need to make arrangements to move the cut material to the transfer station. They will re-paint the sign showing the location of the "Tannery". Would like to begin project on weekends in May.

Superintendent noted that the lower level is wetland and shouldn't have wood chips and thought the top may not need chips; therefore, chipping may not be necessary. He thought the project might be completed in two phases, first to clear the brush and then complete the

trail. Superintendent will meet with Zak to view the site, and depending upon the time frame perhaps be able to assist by having a dumpster at the site rather than to pile the brush.

Scout Scott Shafer, Troop 67, 5 Friar Lane, Eagle Project, Beach Park Scout Land:

Scott explained that he proposes to re-build the chapel at Scout Land. The chapel was built by his troop 15 years ago and is pretty destroyed. His plans include log seating and podium at the front. It would be a summer project. Materials needed would be logs and wood.

Superintendent suggested he come back with a more-detailed plan and scope of the project because it is a pretty big undertaking with material needs. It was suggested that he could fund-raise for materials rather than use fallen logs from the wooded area. Superintendent said we would discourage cutting down trees to complete the project. Superintendent will meet with Scott at the site to review the project planning.

**MOTION** by Mr. Chmielewski, second by Dr. Bellows, unanimously passed to close the Public Comments.

**MOTION** by Mr. Chmielewski, second by Dr. Bellows, unanimously passed to accept the minutes of the May meeting with a modification to clarify that the new American Legion "Little Legion" travel program is supported by American Legion, Trumbull Babe Ruth and Trumbull Little League since it involves all Trumbull kids who play; however, due to Little League International rules, Little League is not actually affiliated with the new League. Joe Forren, has resigned from Little League to head this new program.

CORRESPONDENCE:

From: Jackie Kane, Head Field Hockey Coach at Fairfield University requesting Indian Ledge Park's turf field use afternoons, 4:00-6:00 p.m. for 8 weeks in September and October for a new youth field hockey program in Trumbull. This would be a feeder program for the current Trumbull High School field hockey team. Trumbull Youth Field Hockey will be incorporated as a non-profit LLC. They will obtain insurance and submit all coaches names for background checks.

Superintendent indicated that there is no possibility of adding another program this coming fall. May be able to accommodate them at some future time. Perhaps the High School can schedule the new feeder program.

**MOTION** by Mr. DeSabia, second by Mr. Chmielewski, unanimously passed that we will take Trumbull Youth Field Hockey, LLC's request for field space under consideration at a future time when scheduling space might be possible; but, cannot commit field space for a proposed fall 2009 program.

From: Trumbull Radio Control Club, Inc. providing Certificate of Insurance for the upcoming season covering their use of Indian Ledge Field.

Cc of correspondence to Governor Rell from State Senator Anthony J. Musto, State Representatives T.R. Rowe and Tony Hwang requesting the State continue to assist Trumbull with funding for the renovation of Great Oak Park.

Chairman requested we check with the Director of Finance as to funding currently in place.

Nature and Arts Center request for more of a presence within the park system.

**MOTION** by Dr. Bellows, second by Mr. Scippa, unanimously passed to approve the following programs with scheduling through the Recreation Department:

- Catch and Release fishing at Kaatz Pond on May 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for 18/20 youngsters, with notification to the Veterans' Groups of the date.
- A 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Habitat field trip program for Trumbull elementary schools beginning the first week in October at Twin Brooks Park for six days, 3 ½ hours each day, 100 children per session.
- Rocks and Minerals field trip at Old Mine Park as well as general park use for their Saturday programs.... walks through parks, etc.. They plan three or four field trips per year.

Any planned additional programs must be brought before the Park Commission for approval.

**MOTION** by Mr. DeSabia, second by Dr. Bellows, unanimously approving Eagle Project by Zak Voytek, Troop 67 at Abraham Nichols Park to open and clear the old Tannery path which begins at Shelton Road and winds its way up the hill toward the orchard including clearing and removal of brush to open up the historic path as well as the construction and installation of two park benches along the new path, with consultation and advice from the Park Superintendent.

**CONSENSUS** with regard to Scout Scott Shafer, Troop 67, Eagle Project for Beach Park Scout Land that Scout Shafer return with a more-detailed plan and scope of his proposed project to re-build the chapel at Scout Land as it is a big undertaking with material needs. Superintendent will meet with Scott at the site to review the project planning.

Budget Report:

Budget as proposed by the Board of Finance is being presented to the Town Council for approval. We originally requested two trucks, one is being proposed. Superintendent's concern is the transporting of personnel and equipment to our many spread-out through town park locations.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

- Department moving into the high-gear of the spring season.
- Tashua Pool will open three weeks later than Beach Pool.
- New gates are up at Twin Brooks and Old Mine Parks.
- Moving along with landscaping cleanup and greens preparation.
- Repairing Beach Pool Sprinkler Park breakdown with all new in-house tooled apparatus.
- Beginning Indian Ledge Field 1 drainage project next week.
- As there is not currently a plumber available to us, all plumbing duties to open season have been undertaken by Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent.
- Large clean-up project completed at Unity Park on the Bayberry Road side. Area was filled with brush, vines, washouts as well as dumped material such as a sofa, etc. All cleaned out now.

**CONSENSUS** to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Joan E. Plouffe  
Clerical Administrative Assistant

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