

TOWN OF FAIRFIELD
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MARCH 16, 2011

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission of the Town of Fairfield was held on Wednesday, March 16, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Eunice Postol Parks & Recreation Center, 75 Mill Plain Road, Fairfield, Connecticut 06824.

PRESENT: Ellery Plotkin Chairman; Jack Tetreau; Barbara Rifkin; Robert Seirup; Dante Gallucci; Robert McMaster; and Brian Nerreau. ABSENT: Michael Hahn and John Mitola. ALSO PRESENT: Gerald Lombardo, Director of Parks and Recreation.

Chairman Plotkin called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

I. Act on Minutes of February 16, 2011: Jack Tetreau *moved*, and Robert Seirup *seconded* to approve the meeting minutes of February 16, 2011 with the following correction: The motion reflected in Item I. Act on Minutes of January 27, 2011 is revised to read: "B. Seirup made a motion seconded by Barbara Rifkin to approve the minutes with the following correction: Craig Curley is the Field Comm. Chairman and not the President of the Fairfield National Little League. VOTE: 3 in favor; 3 abstain (Gallucci, Tetreau, McMaster). **In Favor:** Robert McMaster; Jack Tetreau; Robert Seirup. Opposed: (None). **Abstention:** Ellery Plotkin, Brian Nerreau. *Motion passes 3-0-2. Note: Gallucci and Rifkin are not reflected in this vote, as they arrived subsequent to this matter being heard.*

II. COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Dr. David Garrell – Pumpkin Contest – Jennings Beach Lot Oct 2, 2011: Gerald Lombardo advised the Commission that if the Penfield Beach parking lot improvements were complete than he would arrange for this event to be moved at that location. Brian Nerreau *moved*, and Jack Tetreau *seconded* to approve the request of Dr. David Garrell. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Barbara Rifkin arrived at 7:08 p.m.

2. Jill Walker – FBRA – Sand Sculpture Festival – Penfield Beach August 19-21, 2011: Jill Walker advised the Commission that she preferred that the event be held at Penfield Beach, and noted that she will need to start advertising the event. Gerald Lombardo indicated that it could be approved at Penfield and if necessary moved to Jennings Beach in the future. Following discussion, Jack Tetreau *moved*, and Barbara Rifkin *seconded* to approve the request of Jill Walker to conduct the sand sculpture festival at Penfield Beach on August 19-21, 2011. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Dante Gallucci arrived at 7:12 p.m.

3. Melanie Marks – Gr. Hill Cemetery Clean-up- April 23, 2011: Ellery Plotkin read a letter from Melanie Marks describing the event. Following discussion, Barbara Rifkin *moved*, and Jack Tetreau *seconded* to approve the request of Melanie Marks to conduct the clean up event at Greenfield Hill Cemetery on April 23, 2011. *Motion passed unanimously.*

4. Maureen Graney, Scout Troop 10 – Campout – Jennings Beach April 9/10, 2011: Gerald Lombardo noted that it was a small group which was earning its merit badges and did not anticipate a problem with the scheduling of this event. Ronald Wojnoski was present to answer any questions concerning the event, and advised the Commission that the group was aware of the rules and would participate in the fire awareness program prior to the event. Robert Seirup moved, and Robert McMaster seconded to approve the request of Maureen Graney to conduct the campout at Jennings Beach on April 9/10, 2011. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Paul O'Brien, Scout Troop 199 – Campout – Jennings Beach April 30/May 1, 2011: Gerald Lombardo noted that he recommended approval of this event. Barbara Rifkin moved, and Dante Gallucci seconded to approve the request of Paul O'Brien to conduct the campout at Jennings Beach on April 30/May 1, 2011. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Charles Rhudy, St. Paul's Church – Summer Services at Jennings Beach: Charles Rhudy advised the Commission that St. Paul's Church is seeking approval to conduct summer services at Jennings Beach for ten Sundays during June, July and August from 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. Barbara Rifkin moved, and Robert McMaster seconded to approve the request of Charles Rhudy for St. Paul's Church to conduct summer services at Jennings Beach. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Wm. Raveis Realty – Homes For Heroes – Sherman Green: Bette Gigliotti provided the Commission with information concerning the Homes For Heroes program, and requested that Gigliotti and Walsh be allowed to conduct a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Sherman Green. Following discussion, Jack Tetreau moved, and Barbara Rifkin seconded to approve the request of Gigliotti and Walsh to conduct a ceremony at the Sherman Green for the Homes For Heroes program. **In Favor:** Jack Tetreau; Barbara Rifkin. **Opposed:** Dante Gallucci, Robert Seirup, Ellery Plotkin; Robert McMaster; and Brian Nerreau. Motion fails 5-2.

Barbara Rifkin moved, and Robert Seirup seconded to place the following matter on the meeting agenda for discussion this evening: Motion passed unanimously.

8. Heidi A. Prom – 76th Annual Dogwood Festival – May 6, 2011 – May 8, 2011: Gerald Lombardo indicated that he would make sure that all insurance requirements are adhered to. Barbara Rifkin moved, and Jack Tetreau seconded to approve the request of Heidi Prom to conduct the 76th Annual Dogwood Festival from May 6, 2011 – May 8, 2011. Motion passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC INPUT – None

IV. NEW BUSINESS – None

V. OLD BUSINESS:

1. To hear an update report on Tennis Center Renovation Plan Report: Gerald Lombardo reported the following: bank approval has been received; drawings are being finalized; the next step is to obtain zoning approval.

2. To hear an update report on the Girl's Softball Field: Gerald Lombardo advised the Commission that the matter was heard by the Planning and Zoning Commission two weeks ago – the public input stage is complete. The matter is scheduled to be on the March 22nd agenda of the Planning and Zoning Commission. Opponents have filed an intervention in the matter, and will give a presentation; the Town's representatives will then have an opportunity to rebut. The issues raised by the opponents include traffic, environmental concerns, open space, and home values.

3. To hear an update report on the Penfield Renovation Project Report: Gerald Lombardo reported that the public works crew has done a wonderful job on this project, and that they are somewhat behind schedule due to poor weather conditions. Mr. Lombardo noted that paving of the parking lot is not anticipated to be done until the fall; a schedule will be provided to the Commission next month. Decisions regarding rental of the facility will be made as the project is closer to completion. There will still be access to the lockers during construction.

VI. BD. OF EDUCATION REPORT: To hear and act upon information in the BOE Report – No report provided this evening.

VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT: To hear and act upon information in the Director's Report: Gerald Lombardo reported that he will be attending the budget hearing later this evening. Mr. Lombardo advised the Commission that many individuals are taking the opportunity to renew beach stickers on-line; this cuts down on postage costs for the town.

VII. PROGRAM REPORT: - No report provided this evening.

VII. OTHER:

Ellery Plotkin reported that Barbara Rifkin has received the Eunice Postol Award for public service. Chairman Mr. Plotkin noted Ms. Rifkin's 20 years of public service. A dinner honoring Ms. Rifkin is scheduled for April 10, 2011 at the Patterson Club.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Commission, Robert McMaster *moved*, and Barbara Rifkin *seconded* to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m. *Motion passed unanimously.*