

TOWN OF FAIRFIELD
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes of November 29, 2011
SPECIAL MEETING

A Special meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission of the Town of Fairfield was held on Tuesday, November 29, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Eunice Postol Parks & Recreation Center, 75 Mill Plain Road, Fairfield, Connecticut 06824.

PRESENT: Ellery Plotkin, Chairman; Robert McMaster; Brian Nerreau; Robert Seirup; Alexa Mullady and Jessica Gerber (BOE)

ABSENT: Dante Gallucci; Barbara Rifkin and Jack Tetreau

ALSO PRESENT: G. Lombardo, Director of Parks and Recreation

Chairman Plotkin called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

I. To hear and act upon proposed amendments to the previous vote taken on Beach Sticker and Daily Parking Fees:

Chairman Plotkin explained to all that at the last meeting several votes were taken concerning changes in fees and policies regarding sticker and parking fees. Following this meeting, Mr. Lombardo had asked for clarification as to when each item would take effect and Mr. Plotkin felt that although he believed that everyone assumed they would take place immediately, it was not part of the motion and so he felt it was important enough to meet again to be sure that everyone was in agreement. He asked that they take each item one by one and vote to open each item up for discussion and then vote to clarify the date that each would take effect.

Mr. Lombardo stated that he felt it would be a good idea to send out the stickers for free for 2012 with a notification that the stickers would cost \$10.00 in subsequent years.

Mr. Seirup asked if every vote taken by the Commission needs to have a date in its motion. Mr. Plotkin explained that this was such an important decision that he wanted to be sure everyone was clear about it and Mr. Lombardo wanted clarification.

1. Extend the collection of Daily Parking fees at Jennings and Penfield Beaches from 6 pm to 8 pm. No charge after 6 pm for Fireworks Event.

Alexa Mullady *moved*, and Brian Nerreau *seconded* to reopen the discussion of Daily Parking fees at Jennings and Penfield Beaches from 6 pm to 8 pm. with no charge after 6 pm for Fireworks Event.

Motion passed unanimously.

Alexa Mullady *moved*, and Brian Nerreau *seconded* to Daily Parking fees at Jennings and Penfield Beaches from 6 pm to 8 pm. with no charge after 6 pm for Fireworks Event effective December 1 2011.

Motion passed unanimously.

2. Require Beach Stickers at Jennings Beach on Family Movie Nights and collect at the gate until 9:30 pm from those who do not have stickers.

Alexa Mullady moved, and Brian Nerreau seconded to reopen the discussion to require Beach Stickers at Jennings Beach on Family Movie Nights and to collect at the gate until 9:30 from those who do not have stickers. Motion passed unanimously.

Alexa Mullady moved, and Brian Nerreau seconded to require Beach Stickers at Jennings Beach on Family Movie Nights and to collect at the gate until 9:30 from those who do not have stickers effective December 1, 2011. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Charge each car owned by a senior 62 years of age or older \$10.00

Alexa Mullady moved, and Brian Nerreau seconded to reopen the discussion of charging each car owned by a senior 62 years of age or older \$10.00 Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion:

Mr. McMaster asked if there would be announcements made about these decisions and was told by Mr. Lombardo that a letter would go out to the seniors with their applications. Mr. Seirup felt that if everything were presented in a positive manner that people would understand. Ms. Mullady remarked that if the Commission delays the date until next year as suggested by Mr. Lombardo, then they are merely extending the length of time that you'll hear from the people who are unhappy about the decision. Mr. Nerreau agreed. Mr. Lombardo was concerned that the public did not have a chance to speak at a Public Hearing. He added that if the Commission made their decision effective in 2012, the public would have had a chance to "voice their opinion". Mr. Plotkin stated that even though they have access to Penfield for free, charging the seniors is "historic" for Fairfield. "Even though the agendas are posted, I don't want people to feel there was no notice. I want to feel that we did the best job we could". It was explained to new member, Ms. Gerber that presently, with the free beach sticker, the seniors also have access to the Transfer Station for free as well. Mr. McMaster stated, "Most seniors I know don't go to the beach and will be upset about being charged \$10 to go to the dump."

Alexa Mullady moved, and Bob Seirup seconded to charge each car owned by a senior 62 years of age or older \$10.00 effective December 1, 2011.

Motion passed 4-2-0 with E. Plotkin and B. McMaster opposed

4. Lake Pass Holders are required to pay for a Dump Pass.

Alexa Mullady moved, and Brian Nerreau seconded to reopen the discussion requiring Lake Pass Holders to pay for a Dump Pass. Motion passed unanimously.

Bob Seirup moved, and Brian Nerreau seconded to require Lake Pass Holders to pay for a Dump Pass effective December 1, 2011 Motion passed unanimously.

5. Any Senior (62+) who does not own a car but requires a caregiver to gain beach access must pay \$10.00 for a Hand Pass.

Brian Nerreau moved, and Alexa Mullady seconded to reopen the discussion of requiring any Senior (62+) who does not own a car but requires a caregiver to gain beach access to pay \$10.00 for a Hand Pass. Motion passed unanimously.

Bob Seirup moved, and Alexa Mullady seconded to require any Senior (62+) who does not own a car but requires a caregiver to gain beach access to pay \$10.00 for a Hand Pass effective December 1, 2011.

Motion passed 4-1-1 with E. Plotkin opposed and B. McMaster abstaining.

6. Handicapped individuals must pay \$10 or \$20 per car, depending on age.

Brian Nerreau moved, and Bob Seirup seconded to reopen the discussion of requiring Handicapped individuals to pay \$10/\$20 (depending on age) per car. Motion passed unanimously.

Alexa Mullady moved, and Brian Nerreau seconded to require Handicapped individuals to pay \$10/\$20 (depending on age) per car effective December 1, 2011.

Motion passed 4-2-0 with E. Plotkin and B. McMaster opposed

7. Create an “M” sticker to be given free to:

- a. those purchasing a boat slip at the So. Benson Marina or Ye Yacht Yard.
- b. those using the Boat Ramps at Jennings Beach or Ye Yacht Yard.
- c. Those renting boat racks at Jennings Beach.

This sticker would also allow them into Penfield Beach. If they want access to other Town Beaches and/or the Transfer Station, they will be required to bring back the sticker and purchase an “A” Sticker.

No Action was taken on the “M Sticker” at this time.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Commission, Bob Seirup *moved*, and Brian Nerreau *seconded* to adjourn the meeting at 7:20p.m. *Motion passed unanimously.*