

TOWN OF FAIRFIELD  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
Minutes of February 15, 2012

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission of the Town of Fairfield was held on Wednesday, February 15, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Eunice Postol Parks & Recreation Center, 75 Mill Plain Road, Fairfield, Connecticut 06824.

PRESENT: Ellery Plotkin, Chairman; Barbara Rifkin; Dante Gallucci; Robert Seirup; Alexa Mullady; Jack Tetreau; Brian Nerreau and Jessica Gerber

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Sue Kiraly, Asst. Director of Parks and Recreation; Ginna Paules, Program Dir.

Chairman Plotkin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Representatives from the Fairfield Elks Club presented a check for \$1725 to Program Director, Ginna Paules who gratefully accepted it and said it would be used for new game tables at the new Teen Center once it is built. Ms. Paules added that this is the second donation from the Elks Club in 4 years. The first was a \$1900 donation for a new sound system.

**I. Act on Minutes of January 18, 2012:** B. Nerreau *moved*, and J. Tetreau *seconded* to approve the meeting minutes with the correction of two typographical errors.

*Motion passes 7-0-1. Abstention:* D. Gallucci

**II. COMMUNICATIONS:**

**1. Jim Patterson-Scout Campout** – Mr. Patterson, 220 Linley Dr was present to request that his scouts from Pack 197 (Stratfield School) be permitted to campout at Lake Mohegan on Sat. April 28.

B. Rifkin *moved*, and B. Seirup *seconded* to approve the request.

*Motion passed Unanimously.*

**2. Joe Mancini – Little League Baseball Marathon** – Mr. Mancini, 120 High Point Ln. was present to ask for permission to hold a 24-hour fundraiser at Haydon Field on June 16-17. They would have 30min challenge games including both boy's leagues and the girl's Softball league. They believe they will involve close to 1000 players with the possibility of raising \$50K. Mr. Plotkin was concerned by the round the clock aspect and was told that they would have the parents and coaches playing in the middle of the night and that unless they have that type of scenario, it would be exactly like a regular tournament. Mr. Gallucci who is in favor of the plan stated that this fundraiser is completely voluntary. Another concern raised was that the neighbors would be unhappy. It was decided that the leagues would send out postcards, approved by Sue Kiraly, explaining their plan and ask that anyone with objections come to the March Parks & Rec. meeting to air their concerns. Mr. Seirup also raised the issue of setting a precedent and not being able to turn down other requests that may come after this one requesting a 24-hour event under the lights at Haydon field. S. Kiraly was concerned that the Girl's use this field during that weekend and it may be "championship time" for them. Mr. Mancini stated that the girls could certainly use this opportunity and the field to hold any games that they may need to play. He added that they have spoken to the First Selectman, Police and Fire Depts. who are on board (see letters). Ms. Kiraly stated that she and Mr. Lombardo were concerned that the Zoning was such that the lights had to go out at 11pm. They both researched this and found no ruling. Another concern was a raindate. The group said that they would think about this as they may not be able to get the same participation in the summer, yet any earlier dates run into their games.

B. Rifkin *moved*, and A. Mullady *seconded* to table this request to a date certain of March 21.

*Motion passed 7-0-1 (D. Gallucci abstained)*

**3. Valerie Garrido-Bisceglia - World Artist Network, Artist for a Day-** Ms. Garrido -98 Kenwood Ave. was present to request Sherman Green on Sat., April 21 and Sat., Aug 18 for their annual artist's day. They expect 80-100 participants throughout the day.

A. Mullady *moved*, and B. Nerreau *seconded* to approve the request.

*Motion passed unanimously 8-0-0*

**4. Melanie Marks – Burial Ground Informational Item** – Ms. Marks came to explain the plan that Jim Lee has put forth to have the headstone of Capt. Samuel Smedley in the Old Burial Ground on Beach Road repaired (see letter attached). The estimate to repair is \$575 and would be paid for through donations. Mr. Jim Bria has been approved to do the restoration. This Commission is the last stop in approvals.

B. Rifkin *moved*, and J. Tetreau *seconded* to approve the established historical committee's request to arrange for repairs to the Smedley headstone.

*Motion passed unanimously. 8-0-0*

### III. PUBLIC INPUT - None

### IV. NEW BUSINESS

**1. Paddle Board Concession Request** – The Commission wanted to wait until Mr. Lombardo returned to go over the contract and what the Town Atty. had stated about the contract before going forward with any plans to go out to bid.

D. Gallucci *moved*, and B. Rifkin *seconded* to table the request to a date certain in March.

*Motion passed unanimously 8-0-0*

### V. OLD BUSINESS:

**1. Request for Ludlowe HS Baseball team –Windscreen and Fence Capping at Kiwanis Field**– Larry Klein, husband to Katie Klein of Sports Image was present in her absence, to answer any questions the Commission members had about the contract that was tentatively approved, pending review, at last month's meeting. Some members had suggested changes after reviewing the contract:

- Mr. Seirup asked that it be stipulated that *there will be no banners in the "batter's eye", 50 feet on either side of the center field line.*
- Mr. Nerreau asked *that the number of banners on the windscreen be limited to 12.*
- Mr. Nerreau asked that the contract change the second paragraph in section 7 that alludes to the Coach of the high school team and indicate *that the Sports Image organization will be responsible for the installation and removal of the windscreen each season.*

B. Nerreau *moved*, and J. Tetreau *seconded* to change the Sports Image Windscreen contract to make the three changes as stipulated in italics above.

*Motion passed unanimously 8-0-0*

**2. To hear an update report on the Boys/Girls Little League Fields:** Ms. Kiraly reported that there were no updates since last month. Mr. Nerreau reported that the sign by Amer. Little League had been put up at Gould Manor but he reminded the League to put something in the newspapers as well.

**3. To hear an update report on Tennis Center Renovation Plan Report:** Ms. Kiraly reported that there has not been any further progress in the project.

**V. BD. OF EDUCATION REPORT:** Jessica Gerber reported that Supt. Title's budget of a 2.6% increase was unanimously approved by the Board. There are \$2.0 million in capital improvements. The budget now goes to all the Town Boards.

**VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** S. Kiraly reported that the Dept. held its big registration for summer programs on Feb. 1 with 67% of the people registering online. There were some computer issues that are being addressed.

## VI. PROGRAM REPORT-

Mr. Plotkin stated that he had received some emails from Roy King regarding dogs on the beach. Joan Ryan stated that she knew Mr. Lombardo had met with Mr. King and was planning to order some new signs to prevent people from going onto the private portion of the beach with their dogs.

Mr. Plotkin let the Commission know that there had been vandalism at the Skate Park and a Westporter had been charged. Mr. Gallucci stated that he would follow up and see about the possibility of any restitution to the Town for the damages. Ms. Rifkin asked that the Skate Park be brought back to the Commission as she feels that no one is paying attention to the posted rules. Mr. Gallucci agreed and felt that a fee should be charged, with the possibility of barring an individual if they do not adhere to the rules. It was agreed that the topic would be on next month's agenda

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the Commission, B. Seirup *moved*, and D. Gallucci *seconded* to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

*Motion passed unanimously.*