

TOWN OF FAIRFIELD
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes of July 18, 2012

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission of the Town of Fairfield was held on Wednesday, July 18, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Eunice Postol Parks & Recreation Dept. Fairfield, Connecticut 06824.

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

ABSENT: Dante Gallucci; Alexa Mullady; and Patti Dyer

ALSO PRESENT: Gerry Lombardo, Dir., Parks & Recreation

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

I. Act on Minutes of June 20, 2012: B. Rifkin *moved*, and B. Nerreau *seconded* to approve the meeting minutes as written. *Motion passes 4-0-1*. J. Gerber Abstained, J. Tetreau not yet present,

II. COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Abigail Hanson- Roger Sherman Cub Scout Campout - October 6, 2012. Ms. Hanson was present to make the request stating that this was their 3rd year. Mr. Lombardo stated that the date was available.

B. Rifkin *moved*, and J. Gerber *seconded* to approve the event as requested.

Motion passed 5-0-0 J. Tetreau not yet present

2. Fr. Guido Montanero - Holy Family Church Carnival 2013-(see letter request) Fr. Montanero was not present for this request however Mr. Lombardo stated that there were no issues this year and recommended approval.

B. Nerreau *moved*, and B. Seirup *seconded* to approve the event as requested.

Motion passed 5-0-0 J. Tetreau not yet present

III. PUBLIC INPUT – None

IV. NEW BUSINESS – Fish Cleaning at South Benson Marina – Police Officers Dalling and Wiltsie were present to ask the Commission to consider some options for stopping the discarding of fish entrails into the waters at the marina. They explained that there is a cleaning station and that after cleaning the fish, people throw the carcasses into the waters. This attracts rats and gives off an odor. Mr. Lombardo reported that he and Rich White went down to the marina to look at the area. They decided that for the short-term they would place a 55 gal. drum with a plastic liner down at the cleaning station and have it emptied each day. For the long-term they would like to purchase a grinder to grind the carcasses at the cleaning station and they would go directly into the sewer. Mr. White believes he may have something that the Town owns but if not they will need to purchase it. Throughout the discussion, members felt that regardless of what type of grinder they use, signs should be posted and rules should be amended to state that throwing the entrails into the water is prohibited. This will give the Marine Police something to back them up. Officer Dalling stated that a rule would help and they would first give a warning and then give a ticket for littering. It was decided that next month the vote to add such a rule will be placed on the agenda.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

1. To hear and/or take action on Skate Park Issues –Mr. Lombardo reported that attendance is still between 15 and 20 people. The new signs are in the works. Following the full summer season he will give a full report to the Commission.

2. To hear an update report on the Boys/Girls Little League Fields: Mr. Lombardo reported that the Girls Softball field is moving along and is 90% sodded. The fencing will be done in the next week or so. Signs will be purchased; one for the entrance will be purchased by Little League and two for directional purposes stating directions for the field, golf course and driving range will be purchased by the Town. It

will be ready for play in September and there will be a dedication. The Girls are once again in the hunt for a championship. They are State Champions for the second year in a row and will next be heading for the New England Tournament.

Gould Manor fields are improving. The field by the pond is 99% done and the Town will be re-doing the Crestwood Road field using the bond from Little League.

3. To hear an update report on Tennis Center Renovation Plan Report: Mr. Lombardo reported that They had hoped to start remediation on the building but Fairfield Indoor Tennis received a bid of \$100K for the removal of PCBs found in the window casings. They want the Town to help with paying for the removal. Another study was just completed and a separate price of \$43K came in for both buildings. Although this is much less, they still want the Town to assist in paying for it. Gerry is asking R. White to research this new rate in comparison to the first rate and he will report back next month as things progress.

V. BD. OF EDUCATION REPORT: J. Gerber reported that they have hired/placed 4 new principals and a new headmaster at the Ludlowe HS. The BOE has returned \$345K to the Town as there were more retirees than expected. Dr. Title's contract was extended for 3 years.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT: G. Lombardo reported:

- There was a tragic drowning this week at the North end of Lake Mohegan Mr. Lombardo stated that there are signs stating that swimming in that area was not permitted.
- Rich White will be retiring and there will be a party in his honor on Oct 4 at Penfield Pavilion.
- The Fireworks were a big success. Mr. Lombardo had a wrap-up meeting with the Police, Fire and DPW and the alcohol policy was discussed. People are much more "obvious" in their use of alcohol on the beach. Police will be enforcing the no alcohol policy from now on where they had be fairly lenient.
- Mr. Lombardo would like to get the Beach Sticker Sub-Committee together to discuss all the rules and varying scenarios that occur so that we are sure we are all on the same page. He will contact the members to decide on a date.
- There have been some complaints from the Southport neighborhood regarding the new concession at Southport Beach.. Some like it and others do not. The concessionaire is asking for there to be 3 or 4 spaces in the front for people who are just making a quick food pickup. With permission from the Commission he will assign three spaces to have a 10 minute limit. They agreed.

VII. PROGRAM REPORT- G. Lombardo reported:

- Action Squad recently took a trip to the Brownstone and it was very well received. Mr. Lombardo spoke to the owner during the visit and is looking into anything that might add to Lake Mohegan as far as rafts, etc. understanding that anyone would have to wear a life jacket.
- Camp will be travelling to Quassy Amusement Park tomorrow which is a new trip.
- Movie Nights have been very successful and we are now charging for parking until 9:30 on Movie nights which is bringing in more revenue.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Commission, B. Rifkin *moved*, and J.Gerber *seconded* to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Ryan, Recording Secretary