

Community Services and Recreation

DRAFT MINUTES/APPROVED

To: Parks & Recreation Commission Members

From: Gerardo Sorkin, Director

Re: Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting January 19, 2010

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Mary Lou Stamp at 7:00p.m.

I. Attendance:

*Commissioners Present:* Al Centone, Joe Capucci, Suzanne Lewis, Frank Montagna, Michael Pomichter, Mary Lou Stamp, Susan Puzycki

*Staff Present :* Gerardo Sorkin, Director of Community Services and Recreation  
Eileen Pettit, Assistant Director of Recreation  
Lynn Sadosky, Director of Public Works  
Victor Palma, Superintendent of Public Works & Field Operations

First Selectman Mike Freda sent his apologies to the Commission for not being able to make the meeting due to scheduling conflicts, but will attend a meeting in the future.

Mrs. Stamp welcomed back former commissioner Michael Pomichter. Mr. Pomichter returns to the commission providing valuable experience as a commissioner. Additionally Ms. Stamp wished to publicly thank former commissioner Rich Wilson for his time that he served on the Parks and Recreation Commission. She congratulated him and wished him well in his elected position on the Planning and Zoning board.

II. Acceptance of Minutes:

In the November 16, 2009 meeting under Old Business, a question arose regarding who's jurisdiction does supervision responsibilities fall at Vanacore Field during JV/Freshman football games. Ms. Sadosky mentioned that they would follow up with an email with Todd at the high school regarding this issue. Lynn Sadosky indicated that Todd's last name is Petronio.

Al Centone made a motion to accept the November 16, 2009 minutes as corrected, seconded by Joe Capucci.

III. Correspondence:

Ms. Sadosky received a letter from Brian Testa of Maple Ave., employee of Sweetheart Ice Cream of Hamden, expressing his interest in becoming a vendor to sell ice cream on the Town Green during the upcoming 2010 Summer Concert Series. He previously made this request prior to the summer 2009 concert season, however was denied due to the understanding (unwritten policy) that had been put in place with the current vendors have (with each other as well as the town) that food products could not be

duplicated (aside from beverages). Upon his denial last year, he had been told that the policy may be changing, and for this reason, his hope was that Sweetheart Ice Cream could be reconsidered for participation as a vendor for the 2010 season. Copies of this letter were also sent to the First Selectman.

Mrs. Stamp commented that while an unwritten policy regarding vendors is in place, a written policy must be put into place. Ms. Sadosky addresses this in her Director's report.

#### IV. Director's Report:

##### Lynn Sadosky, Director of Public Works

##### Old business:

*Sinoway Pond:* Public Works is currently assessing the improvements needed for the vandalized portions of the bridge at Sinoway Pond. Discussions continue in regard to Building Department and code requirements.

*Leaf Clean-up:* was completed at all Town Parks in late November and Public Works is in the process of scheduling Spring Clean-up activities.

*Tree Lighting:* ceremony on Town Green was conducted on Sunday, December 6, 2009. the event was very well attended by the Public and members of Town staff.

New Wreaths and Holiday Bows were purchased through Beautification Budget (for Town Green) and placed around the Central Block area.

##### New business:

*Status of development of Draft Rules and Regulations for the use of the Town Parks:* the Department of Public Works has solicited nearby Towns for copies of their Rules and regulations and is currently preparing a Draft for review at the March 2010 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

*Discussion on status of Draft Policy Statement concerning Vendor Use of Town Green during Summer Concert Series:* Per the letter sent in by Mr. Testa, they realize that an unwritten policy has been in place with some vendors (some for over twenty years) for town sponsored events (including summer concerts and parades). This policy was understood among vendors that food products could not be duplicated (aside from beverages), to which vendors have abided by. Ms. Sadosky distributed a draft of procedures to all the commissioners for their review, and asked that they provide her with any comments or feedback that they have, and it will be discussed at the next meeting.

Mr. Centone stated that while these procedures apply to town sponsored events, the commission may want to consider incorporating these procedures for those youth leagues who run their own concession stands (for fund raising) as well. Mr. Centone also brought up safety is an issue, as well as the possibility of these vendors encroaching on the fund raising efforts of the organizations, a point brought up by Mrs. Lewis.

Mr. Montagna, mentioned that he believes this issue was addressed years ago, indicating that no vendor was allowed on Town property without the permission of the Town. Ms. Sadosky will look into whether any town ordinances exist apply towards the ability for other mobile vendors (i.e. ice cream vendors) to sell food at these fields.

Gerardo Sorkin, Director of Community Services and Recreation

Recreation:

The Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony was held on Sunday, December 6, 2009. Hundreds of children and their parents enjoyed the festivities, which included face painting, cookie decorating, refreshments, pictures with "Santa" and caroling. Mark and Mary Minotti and students from Minotti Music entertained the crowd with a variety of Christmas carols. The day culminated with the lighting of the tree on the Town Green. A special thanks to our co-sponsor, McDonalds for providing juice, Mark and Mary for coordinating the entertainment, North Haven Knights of Columbus for providing hot chocolate and coffee, the North Haven High School Chorus for the caroling on the Green, and staff from Coldwell Banker Real Estate for volunteering their time.

Winter recreation and pool programs have begun.

Planning has begun for summer concerts, employment, playgrounds, day camp and sport camps. Summer camps will run June 28 through August 6<sup>th</sup>. We will offer a 6-week summer program this year. Concerts will begin on June 29<sup>th</sup> and end on August 10<sup>th</sup>. 7 weeks on Tuesdays at 7:00pm. Details will be given as we get closer to June. Mr. Montagna asked about the process of applying for the summer employment, to which Mr. Sorkin responded that candidates can go to the the Finance Office to fill out an application. The last day to apply will be March 5th.

The annual Easter event is scheduled for Saturday, March 27, 2010. The event is indoors from 10:30am-12:00pm.

Planning for adult softball league is underway. League play will be on Monday through Thursday evenings. This year we will be offering a new league. A Co-ed league will be offered on Tuesday evenings. We are working with ASA in putting together a packet of rules similar to the men's and women's league.

Ms. Pettit is currently working with Nancy Leddy (Youth Services Administrator) organizing monthly events for Middle School students. The idea is to host an event once a month on a Friday evening from 7-9pm at the Recreation Center, starting in February and running through May. One event idea that is currently being planned is a dance. Additionally, a DJ training program will take place once a week for one hour after school for 4 weeks. Then at the dance, those DJ trainees would be selected to spin for part of the two hour event. They have met with the Superintendent and members of the Guidance Department at the Middle School.

We are looking to review pool fees for the upcoming fiscal year. Fees have remained the same for the last four years.

V. Old Business:

As a follow up to the discussion surrounding all youth sports organizations and their policies and procedures related to the *Rules of Conduct*, Mr. Sorkin sent a reminder letter dated December 14, 2009 to these organizations indicating that they must submit their policies and procedures in order to schedule future use of the fields by January 15, 2010. At this time, Max Sinoway Baseball, North Haven Girls Softball, North Haven Soccer Club and North Haven Lacrosse have submitted these policies and procedures. A message was left for Hamden/North Haven Swim Club. Hamden/North Haven Swim Club Dave Mikos and Mike Pepe have been contacted and policies and procedures for Youth Football and Youth Basketball will be submitted shortly. Additionally, Mr. Sorkin spoke with Denise Ciccarelli of Youth Cheerleading, and they indicated that their policies and procedures apply are the same of the Youth

Football, thus the final two needed are Youth Football and Youth Basketball, which should be received soon.

VI. New Business:

Max Sinoway came in to request a new application for their annual monetary stipend for 2010.

Mrs. Stamp passed around the current commissioner contact sheet, asking that everyone review it and make any appropriate corrections or additions.

VII. Public Participation:

None.

VIII. Adjournment:

Ms. Stamp asked for a Motion to Adjourn. Motion made by Frank Montagna, seconded by Joe Capucci. The meeting was adjourned at 7:26p.m.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, March 15th, 2010.