

Community Services and Recreation

DRAFT MINUTES/APPROVED

To: Parks & Recreation Commission Members

From: Gerardo Sorkin, Director

Re: Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting May 17, 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, Mary Lou Stamp.

Commissioners Absent: Michael Pomichter, Susan Puzycki.

Staff Present : Gerardo Sorkin, Director of Community Services and Recreation
Lynn Sadosky, Director of Public Works
Victor Palma, Superintendent of Public Works & Field Operations
Carla Pelliccio, Secretary

II. Acceptance of Minutes:

Joe Capucci made a motion to accept the March 15, 2010 minutes, seconded by Al Centone.

III. Correspondence:

As a follow up to correspondence reported during the January 19, 2010 meeting in which resident Brian Testa of Sweetheart Ice Cream of Hamden, had expressed his interest in becoming a vendor to sell ice cream on the Town Green during the upcoming 2010 Summer Concert Series. Mrs. Stamp sent a letter to Sweetheart Ice Cream informing them that a unanimous decision had been reached at the March meeting in which the current vending policy will remain in effect. She thanked them for their interest and encouraged them to pursue other vending opportunities in North Haven in the future.

A letter dated March 22nd was received from Tammy Wilson, Playground Committee Chair from Montowese Elementary School PTA, seeking approval to set up a table at one of the 2010 summer concerts. The intent is to sell baked goods, unmeltable candy, as well as having a children's "fishing activity," in order to raise money towards a new playground at Montowese School.

Mrs. Stamp received a letter dated May 12, 2010 from resident Kimberly Carew, creator of Project PLAY (Playground Linking Adults and Youngsters), requesting the long term care of the playscape that had been installed at Grover Wyman Park in 1995. She indicated that it appears to be falling into a state of disrepair, the maintenance of the area has diminished over the years, and furthermore that it does not appear that police patrol the area with the same frequency as it had once been, lending itself to vandalism.

These two letters were addressed under New Business.

IV. Director's Report:

Gerardo Sorkin, Director of Community Services and Recreation Recreation:

The Annual Easter event took place on Saturday March 27th. The event was well attended and everyone had a great time. Special thanks to our co-sponsor McDonald's on Washington Ave. Also thanks to Ellen Gomes and Toni Fazio from Calcagni Real Estate for volunteering for the 15th year as our judges for the Easter Bonnet and Top hat contests.

The 17th Annual Fishing Derby took place on Saturday, May 1, 2010 at Sinoway Pond on Upper State Street. Once again, close to 200 children registered for this event. The event was very successful again this year. The weather was perfect. Special thanks to the following for sponsoring: McDonald's on Washington Ave., Dunkin Donuts of Washington Ave., Tom Villano, Dairy Queen of Whitney Ave., Double J Sound, Uncle B's Bait and Tackle, J. Roos, Antonio's Sub Shop, River House Tavern, DJ's Comics and Cards, Barnick's Truck and Equipment, Southern CT Tackle, Veolia Water and Dougan Automotive, LLC.

Summer registration has begun for both recreation and pool programs.

The adult softball league has begun. There are 23 teams registered in the league. Leagues are on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday with makeup games scheduled on Tuesdays. The season will conclude at the end of July, weather permitting.

Pool and Recreation Center maintenance has been scheduled. The pool will be closed August 8- 15. The Recreation Center will be closed for programs and meetings August 16-September 3rd. The gym floor will be refinished on September 2nd and 3rd. Mr. Sorkin thanked Ms. Sadosky, Mr. Palma and all of the Public Works staff for their support at the various event.

Lynn Sadosky, Director of Public Works

Scheduled Max Sinoway Baseball for 2010 season for fields including, Montowese Nos. 1 – 4, Blakeslee, Green Acres Elementary (3 Fields), Clintonville, ACES at Mill Road, Bailey Road.

Scheduled North Haven Soccer Club for 2010 Season including Memorial, Rock Road and Ridge Road fields during the day hours from March 30 - June 25, 2010.

Scheduled North Haven Lacrosse Club for the 2010 Season including from April 1 – June 27, 2010 and for use of the Recreation Field and the Aces Lacrosse field from April 1 - June 27, 2010 (day and evening) for games and practice.

Scheduled Community Services and Recreation for Grover Wyman Field and Gateway Field #1 for Adult Softball scheduled until August 26, 2010 (5 – 11 p.m.). Also, scheduled Ridge Road School field for soccer camp and the Recreation Center field for from June 28th (Golf) and June 30th for several Mondays and Wednesday's (Fun Sports Camp) until August 23, 2010.

Scheduled Community Services and Recreation for Montowese fields Nos. 1 - 3 for 'Maroon and White Camp', 'Pitching and Catching Camp', 'Baseball Hitting Camp' from August 2 - 6, 2010 and for 'Advanced Baseball Camp' through August 6, 2010.

Special Olympics has been scheduled for the Town Pool and Pool events from June 11th – 13th, 2010.

Scheduled Special Olympics at Green Acres School starting June 15, 2010 – Mondays and Wednesdays through September 1, 2010.

Scheduled the Jimmy V Foundation for August 13, - 15, 2010, with rain dates the following week (20th - 22nd) for all of Grover Wyman and Gateway Fields.

Scheduled North Haven High School for varsity Baseball, sub-varsity baseball, varsity softball, junior varsity softball, middle school softball, track (runners), track (throwers), girls lacrosse, boys lacrosse, and boys and girls tennis through June 18, 2010.

Scheduled North Haven Girls Softball League for Gateway fields (Nos. 1 – 7) through July 31, 2010.

Brook Field is only available to the Middle School and Girls Junior Varsity Softball. This has been communicated to the various clubs and leagues.

As part of Earth Day, the Department of Public Works received a donation of 20 arborvitae trees from Covanta Energy. The trees are currently 5-6ft. and will grow up to 20 feet; 15 have been placed at Brook Field and the remaining 5 on Waterbury Rd. Grant Peckham will water and maintain them.

V. Old Business:

Correspondence continued among Mary Lou Stamp and Brian Testa from Sweetheart Ice Cream, in which she explained via phone the unanimous vote made at the last commission meeting (see Correspondence). Mrs. Sadosky will respond to Mr. Testa to reiterate that the policy was unanimously voted on at the 3/15/10 meeting by the commission.

VI. New Business:

Gerardo Sorkin, Director of Community Services and Recreation

North Haven Lacrosse Club: North Haven Lacrosse Club submitted their application requesting funding in the amount of \$3,500. Mr. Sorkin made the recommendation that \$3,500 be given to the North Haven Lacrosse Club for this year.

Bernard Pellgrino, Vice President of the North Haven Lacrosse Club attended this meeting to provide an overview of the organization as well as thanked the commission for their consideration in awarding Town financial assistance.

Joe Capucci made a motion to accept Mr. Sorkin's recommendation in the amount of \$3,500 to be awarded to Max Sinoway, seconded by Frank Montagna.

Max Sinoway Baseball: Max Sinoway submitted their application requesting funding in the amount of \$4,000. Mr. Sorkin made the recommendation that \$4,000 be given to the Max Sinoway for this year.

Suzanne Lewis made a motion to accept Mr. Sorkin's recommendation in the amount of \$4,000 to be awarded to Max Sinoway, seconded by Joe Capucci.

Lynn Sadosky, Director of Public Works

Project PLAY: A discussion took place regarding the request received from Kimberly Carew, creator of Project PLAY requesting that the long term care of the playscape at Grover Wyman Park occurs (see correspondence). Mr. Palma indicated that pick up trash daily, as many people frequent this park. Mrs. Stamp will contact Ms. Carew and inform her that the Department of Public Works will contact the Finance Department to explore financial resources for power washing and re-staining. Ms. Sadosky will explore the possibility of having either Eagle Scouts or Workforce Alliance youth over the age of 18 to assist in this project. Additionally she will send a copy of Ms. Carew's letter to Chief DiCarlo regarding the concern of police patrol. In the meantime, Mr. Palma will address the cracked swings that Ms. Stamp brought to his attention.

Request for waived fees by Festival of Angels: The Department of Public Works has received a request to waive fees for use of Showmobile and Memorial Field for the annual soccer tournament sponsored by the Festival of Angels for August 19 - 22, 2010. Ms. Sadosky made a recommendation that the fees be waived.

Al Centone made a motion to accept the recommendation of Ms. Sadosky, seconded by Frank Montagna.

Annual Flag Day Memorial ceremony will take place on the Town Green Saturday, June 12 between 11a.m. and 1p.m.

Installation of pavers on Green: Public Works Union proposed that pavers be installed on the Town green for permanent Dance Floor (25' by 20') before 2010 Summer Concert Series. The dance floor would be placed in front of the area where the Showmobile will sit. Insurance and liability has been reviewed by town attorney and First Selectman and thus a green light has been given. Seamless pavers (not with beveled edges) have been donated by Nicolock and the proposed time frame to complete is two weeks.

Al Centone made a motion to accept the recommendation of Mr. Palma, seconded by Frank Montagna.

Letters to Vendors: The Department of Public Works is currently working with Vendors applying to provide food and beverages at the Town Green during the 2010 Summer Concert Series. Letter sent to all vendors on May 10, 2010 reminding them of May 15th – June 1st deadlines for applications.

Addressing non-profit organization requests: A discussion took place on how to address the various non-profit requests (PBA, Knights of Columbus, Masons, Rotary, etc.) for representation at the Summer Concert Series (only group selling hot dogs and hamburgers at the concerts). Currently the Rotary has reserved two concerts. Ms. Stamp will follow up regarding who will be present at the other nights. The commission would like the non-profits represented at all concerts, not just some, and feel that perhaps all the non-profits should be called in for a meeting with the commission in order to determine how each organization is selected for which concert.

Suzanne Lewis made a motion to have up to two non-profits per concert for this summer concert season, as long as they do not conflict with food products, seconded by Joe Capucci. Fund raising organization requests will be handled by the Commission on a case by case basis.

Ms. Sadosky will add this to the guidelines. Additionally, she will revise the application deadline to May 1st – May 15th (prior to the final Parks and Recreation commission meeting before summer break).

Moving forward to next year, the commission will reserve the discretion to determine which organizations are granted tables and assign which concert they are permitted to have a table.

Montowese Playground Fundraiser opportunity: A discussion took place regarding the request received from Tammy Wilson, Playground Committee Chair from Montowese Elementary School PTA, seeking approval to set up a table at one of the 2010 summer concerts. As mentioned, the intent would be to sell baked goods, unmelttable candy, as well as having a children's "fishing activity," in order to raise money towards a new playground at Montowese School.

It was decided that Montowese Elementary PTA will be allowed to sell baked goods and unmelttable candy only, however not the fishing activity at the Billy Joel tribute summer concert. They will be allowed to pick a second concert as well. Ms. Sadosky will be in contact with Ms. Wilson.

Lightning Policy: In light of youth activity on the Bailey Road field during a recent lightning and thunder activity, Mr. Centone brought up the idea that if each sports organization has their own lightning policy, then they should be reminded to adhere to it. Mr. Sorkin will research the lightning policies that exist. It was suggested that a reminder be sent to each of the sports league organizations.

Application for Financial Assistance Deadline Reminder: As the end of the fiscal year approaches (6/30/10), Mr. Sorkin indicated that a time frame must be set in order for sports leagues to submit their applications for financial assistance before the fiscal year ends. A letter will be sent to all sports leagues after the start to the new fiscal year (sometime in August) to remind them of this time frame as they plan for the upcoming year, as well as to remind them that their rules of conduct must be submitted prior to their fields being scheduled for their season.

VII. Public Participation:

None.

VIII. Adjournment:

Ms. Stamp asked for a Motion to Adjourn. Motion made by Al Centone, seconded by Frank Montagna. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40p.m.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, September 20th, 2010 *at 5:30pm.*