

DRAFT MINUTES/APPROVED

To: Parks & Recreation Commission Members
From: Eileen Pettit, Assistant Director of Recreation
Re: Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting November 19, 2012

Meeting was called to order by Chair, Mary Lou Stamp at 5:31pm.

I. Attendance:

Commissioners Present: Al Centone, Suzanne Lewis, Frank Montagna,
Susan Puzycki, Mary Lou Stamp.

Commissioners Absent: Joe Capucci, Michael Pomichter.

Staff Present: Eileen Pettit, Assistant Director of Recreation
Lynn Sadosky, Director of Public Works
Victor Palma, Director of Field Operations
Carla Riccio, Secretary

II. Acceptance of Minutes:

Al Centone made a motion to accept the September 17, 2012 minutes, seconded by Susan Puzycki.

III. Correspondence:

Use of Town Green: Ms. Pettit received an email dated November 13th from Brenda Howlett, Committee Chair of the Daytime Gardeners of North Haven. Ms. Howlett indicated they would like to sell holiday wreaths once again this year as a fund raiser at the time of the Christmas Tree Lighting on the Town Green, on Sunday, December 2nd, from 4-6p.m.

Al Centone made a motion to grant the Daytime Gardeners' request, seconded by Susan Puzycki. All were in favor.

IV. Director's Report/ Old Business:

Eileen Pettit, Assistant Director of Recreation

The Annual Halloween Party was held on Wednesday October 31, 2012, from 4:30–6:00pm. Activities included face painting, refreshments and pictures with the Great Pumpkin, balloons, and entertainment. Ms. Pettit reported that there was a tremendous amount of children this year. Each child received a bag of candy at the conclusion. Ms. Pettit extended a special thanks to McDonald's for co-sponsoring again this year, as well as to Bill Gambardella of Joe's Ice Cream for the donation of ice cream and candy.

Open basketball for men 18 and older is now running Tuesday and Thursday evenings at Ridge Road now through April 4, 2013 from 6:30-9:30pm.

Open Ping-Pong for anyone 18 and older is now running Thursdays from 4:00-8:00pm in the Recreation Center.

Ms. Pettit reported that the monthly Dance Party was held last Thursday evening. Because many of the participants also participate with the Special Olympic basketball team, this month's dance was changed to Thursday from Friday (since Saturday was the tournament). Ms. Pettit reported that the dances continue to be very popular.

Registration for winter programs will begin the first week in December. Programs begin in mid-January.

The Annual Tree Lighting is scheduled for Sunday, December 2nd. The event begins at 2:00pm and concludes at 5:00pm with the lighting of the tree (rain date December 3rd from 3:00-6:00pm). Outdoor activities include hayrides around the Green and caroling. Indoor activities include face painting, cookie decorating, craft room, pictures with Santa, refreshments and a musical revue by Minotti Music. The North Haven Education Foundation will once again be selling luminaries to help light up the Green. Ms. Pettit cordially invited all commissioners to attend.

Ms. Pettit shared that the Zumbathon held on September 28th was a huge success. Both the Diaper Bank and the Food Bank received many donations.

The pool was shut down from Tuesday October 24th to Monday November 5th due to a cracked lateral in the filter. Ms. Pettit explained a bit of the problem with the filter as why the delay. She explained that the laterals are made of PVC and crack over time. The crack in the filter was shooting sand into the pool. Unfortunately since no company in this area sells the part that was needed to do the repair, they had to wait for all parts to be shipped from California. They then ran into a delay due to the snow storm. Ms. Pettit reported that things were back up and running. And while the pool was closed, the locker rooms were made available to people who were out of power from the hurricane.

Lynn Sadosky, Director of Public Works

On September 23, 2012, the Animal Haven's Annual Walk-a-Dog-a Thon was conducted on the Town Green. The event was very successful.

On November 3, 2012, the Republican Town Committee held a rally in support of the elections on the Town Green.

Max Sinoway Fall Baseball ended the weekend of November 11, 2012 – a very successful season was had by all, the Department was informed.

The Department of Public Works continues to conduct a Town-wide storm debris clean-up, including trees and branches that were damaged or deposited on Town Roadways and Parks during Hurricane Sandy through December 31, 2012.

Fall Leaf Collection Program – started on November 5, 2012, for all Town streets and Town parks. It is estimated that the program will continue through December 15, 2012 weather permitting. Currently they are into week 2 of the collection schedule.

Ms. Sadosky reported that the Town received permit to compost on the Town's landfill. Composting

operations will begin this winter. Free compost will be made available to the residents and the Town will be able to sell the compost to landscaping companies and contractors come springtime. An estimated \$10,000 in revenue is expected to be generated.

North Haven Lacrosse is scheduled to meet with Department of Public Works management and Board of Education Field Personnel on December 11, 2012 to discuss Spring 2013 Field needs anticipated by the Club.

Max Sinoway Baseball management is scheduled to meet with the Office of the First Selectman and Department of Public Works on December 4, 2012 to discuss proposed draft field schedules for the Spring and improvements to the Montowese fields.

North Haven Soccer Club - sports programs continue their programs through November 25, 2012 at Ridge Road and Memorial fields.

North Haven Youth Football started its Fall season on the Gateway Complex and will continue through November 19th, 2012. Games will also be played on Vanacore Field, schedules permitting.

USAELITE Softball has proposed a third college recruiting softball event for July 17th – 21st, 2013. Like the 2012 event, it is expected that this event will draw thousands of recruits, their families, coaches and members of the public to North Haven for the 5-day event. USA Elite requests that the Commission and Town approve of their request again for July 2013.

Discussions continue regarding the placement of a Dog Park in the Town of North Haven and the possibility of using the rear of the Grover Wyman Park. To date the 'Paws in the Park' volunteers have received the necessary signatures from surrounding neighbors in support of the project but continue to work with the Town's Land Use Department in an effort to solicit a Zoning Approval (Section 8-24).

Ms. Sadosky reported that on October 3, 2012, the Town's Liability Insurance Carrier, H.D. Segur, met with members of the Town's staff in an effort to discuss an in-depth inspection and assessment of Town Parks with playscapes, including Canna Park, memorial Park, The Pines Park, Forest Park, Grover Wyman Park and Montowese Playground. H.D. Segur experts explained to the attendees the condition of each of the parks equipment and made preliminary suggestions regarding the conditions of same. In some cases Public Works has removed portions of some of the playscapes entirely and has plans to remove additional playscape equipment come Spring of 2013. Solutions regarding equipment replacement are being discussed with the Office of the First selectman now and it is expected these discussions could take several months to finalize.

The Office of the First Selectman and the Department of Public Works were approached in September regarding the potential for a Bike Path Park to be constructed in a North Haven Park. This effort once completed in an existing Park would be dedicated to the North Haven student recently involved in a motor vehicle accident on State Route 22. Discussions continue in an effort to locate the right Park for the project and student's age group with the latest field trip conducted on November 15th between the Department and a designated landscape architect for the project. Discussions continue and the next meeting has been scheduled for January 7, 2012 with the group's organizer.

Review of Draft of Guidelines for Field Use: Ms. Sadosky (with the collaboration of Victor Palma) created and distributed to the Commission an up to date draft of the Guidelines for the Use of Town of North Haven Recreational Facilities. Ms. Sadosky asked the Commission to review and provide her any

feedback they had on the draft. A discussion took place among the commission, Ms. Sadosky and Mr. Palma regarding details of this draft, including some suggestions made and any questions brought up by the commissioners. Based upon the discussion, Ms. Sadosky indicated to the Commission that she will incorporate the feedback and suggestions and revise as necessary.

V. New Business:

Ms. Stamp told the commission that Sports Leagues Subsidy Request reminder letters will be sent out this week. This letter will remind the sports leagues that the Commission will be accepting subsidy requests from January 1st to March 15th. Then at the March 2013 meeting, subsidy requests will be reviewed and voted upon.

VI. Public Participation.

None.

VII. Adjournment:

Chairman Stamp asked for a Motion to Adjourn. Motion made by Frank Montagna, seconded by Al Centone . The meeting was adjourned at 6:07pm.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 22, 2013 (in observance of Martin Luther King Day).