

DRAFT MINUTES/APPROVED

To: Parks & Recreation Commission Members
From: Eileen Pettit, Assistant Director of Recreation
Re: Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting January 22, 2013

Meeting was called to order by Chair, Mary Lou Stamp at 5:27pm.

I. Attendance:

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

Commissioners Absent: Suzanne Lewis.

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

II. Acceptance of Minutes:

Al Centone made a motion to accept the November 19, 2012 minutes, seconded by Michael Pomichter. All were in favor and the Minutes were accepted unanimously.

III. Correspondence:

Mary Lou Stamp received a letter dated January 18, 2013 from First Selectman Michael J. Freda, requesting that the commission select a member to sit on the Open Space Advisory Committee. Ms. Stamp offered to and will continue to sit on the Open Space Advisory Committee as she had done last year.

Forms acknowledging receipt, reading and understanding of the Town's Code of Ethics were distributed to all commissioners. Each commissioner signed and returned their form, as they do annually.

IV. Director's Report/ Old Business:

Eileen Pettit, Assistant Director of Recreation

The annual Tree Lighting Ceremony was held on Sunday December 2, 2012. 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.

Ms. Pettit extended a special thanks their co-sponsor, McDonalds, for providing juice, Mark and Mary Minotti 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, the staff from Coldwell Banker Real Estate for volunteering their time, and the North

Haven Education Foundation for selling luminaries. Ms. Pettit commented how beautiful the luminaries looked placed around the Green once again this year.

Open basketball for men 18 and older continues on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at Ridge Road through April 5, 2013 from 6:30-9:30pm.

Winter recreation and pool programs have begun and brochures are available.

The Spring brochure is almost completed and will be going to the printers in the next week or two.

Planning continues for summer concerts, employment, playgrounds, day camp, Little Rec'ers and sport camps. Summer camps will run July 1st through August 9th. We will offer a 6 week summer program. Concerts will run for 11 weeks on Tuesdays at 7:00p.m. beginning June 18th and concluding on August 27th.

Planning continues for the Easter event which is scheduled for Saturday March 23, 2013. The event will run from 10:30am–12:00pm. There will be pictures with the Easter Bunny, top hat and bonnet contests, raffles prizes and entertainment.

Planning for adult softball league is underway. League play will be on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Tuesdays will be used for make ups if needed. Registration will begin the first week of March.

The next Friday Night Dance Party is scheduled for this Friday January 25th. This party is for adults with special needs.

Special Olympics Connecticut has again requested North Haven to host the 2nd Annual Triathlon on Sunday April 28th. This is not a traditional triathlon. Each team will have 2 athletes and 1 unified partner. Each will compete in one event and combine scores to get the winning team. The swimming will take place at the pool, the running at the track and cycling in the Middle School Parking lot. There will be opening and closing ceremonies. The date is Sunday April 28th from 1:00-3:00pm approximately. Ms. Pettit reserved the High School for parking, Middle School for cycling, track for running and the pool. Public Works will be assisting again with port-o-lets, trash cans and saw horses.

Lynn Sadosky, Director of Public Works

Special Olympics Softball – the season, according to the schedule submitted to the Town's Recreation and Public Works Departments commences at Green Acres School field on June 19, 2013 and will continue through September 4, 2013.

Special Olympics – Track – the season, according to the schedule submitted to the Town's Recreation and Public Works Departments commences on the Vanacore Field track on March 3, 2013 and concludes on June 2nd, Sunday's only.

Special Olympics - Flag Football – the season, according to the schedule submitted to the Town's Recreation and Public Works Departments commences on September 8, 2013 and concludes November 3, 2013, Sunday's only.

North Haven Girls Softball – the season, according to the schedule submitted to the Town's Recreation and Public Works Departments commences at Gateway Fields on April 15, 2013 and will continue through August 1, 2013.

Adult Softball League – the season, according to the schedule submitted to the Town's Recreation and Public Works Departments commences at Grover Wyman Field on April 15, 2013 and will continue through August 1, 2013.

North Haven Lacrosse Club – the season, according to the schedule submitted to the Town's Recreation and Public Works Departments commences on April 1, 2013 and concludes on June 15, 2013. The Club continues to utilize Vanacore Field for games the Recreation and North Haven Fairgrounds fields for practices.

Max Sinoway Baseball – the season, according to the schedule submitted to the Town's Recreation and Public Works Departments commences on April 22, 2013 and concludes at the end of June 2013. Opening Day Ceremonies have been scheduled for April 27, 2013 at Montowese Park.

Todd's Pond Dredging Project – Public Works continues with a dredging project at Todd's Pond Park on Maple Avenue as part of a long standing effort with the Southwest Conservation District to bring the Pond and its associated aquatic/vegetative life back to an acceptable condition and one, which the residents will appreciate post construction.

The Department has received electronic mail messages and telephone notifications from management of the "North Haven Junior Indians" that they will be requesting fields for the members of the youth (8 and 9 year olds) baseball team for this Spring. This league is believed to be comprised of North Haven students but does not maintain a non-profit certification.

The Department has received electronic mail messages that a 'new' 501(C) 3 league is being developed for boys/youth baseball. The organizer, David Fusco, had requested fields be assigned earlier this year if at all possible.

Adoption of Draft Guidelines for Field Usage – Ms. Sadosky indicated that the Department has received comments from various Town Departments and Parks and Recreation Commission members and thus has incorporated changes and modifications to its Draft Guidelines for Field Usage document. Ms. Sadosky distributed this revised draft of the Guidelines for the Use of Town of North Haven Recreational Facilities to the commissioners. After a brief discussion, Frank Montagna made a motion to adopt these guidelines for Field usage, seconded by Joe Capucci. All were in favor and the Guidelines for Field Usage were accepted unanimously.

V. New Business:

Montowese Elementary School Playscape – A Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) grant was awarded for Playscape Refurbishment specific to the 3rd – 5th Grade Play Equipment area. The project budget of \$70,000 includes a \$50,000 grant and an additional \$20,000 raised by the Montowese School and Parent Teachers Association (PTA). The contract was recently awarded to the Glen Terrace Landscaping Company of Hamden. Members of the school, PTA, Town Grant's Administrator and Public Works met during the week of January 7th to discuss the equipment order (6 week lead time), and construction time frame.

The Town, as part of a proactive effort to address the condition of play equipment within all Town Parks requested that it's liability carrier, H.D. Segur Company, perform a formal Park Assessment of each playscape and report back on whether the various equipment was acceptable under current play equipment standards and if not, whether the Town should make improvement(s) or replace altogether. The draft report was issued to the Town on October 3, 2012 via a presentation. Many Park playscape improvements have been completed to date, as a result of this report's recommended actions.

Discussions continue between the Town, Interact and Junior Rotary Club members regarding potential improvements, which could be made to the Grover Wyman Park and its associated playscape, concession stand, trees and overhead canopies and picnic areas. An initial meeting was held on August 20, 2012 to introduce those interested in improving the Park and the types of potential projects, which could be undertaken during the current school year by Junior Rotary students who were also graduating in June 2013 and 2014.

The Town and Department have been a party to ongoing discussions with the Kusmit Family and their representatives to locate a park in Town where a Bike Path Park/Project could be proposed, designed and constructed by August/early September of 2013.

Supervision at the track – Al Centone raised concern about the monitoring of the high school track during the off season, in addition discussed his concern with the condition of the track. After a discussion among the commission, the commission determined that monitoring would be more of a police issue. Ms. Stamp indicated that she will reach out to Police Chief McLoughlin requesting that patrols at the track be increased.

VI. Public Participation:

None.

VII. Adjournment:

Chairman Stamp asked for a Motion to Adjourn. Motion made by Al Centone, seconded by Sue Puzcyki. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 5:52pm. The next meeting will take place on March 18, 2013.