

DRAFT MINUTES/APPROVED

To: Parks & Recreation Commission Members
From: Eileen Pettit, Assistant Director of Recreation
Re: Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting January 20, 2015

Meeting was called to order by Chair, Mary Lou Stamp at 5:29pm.

I. Attendance:

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

Commissioners Absent: Joe Cappucci

Staff Present: Eileen Pettit, Assistant Director of Recreation
Lynn Sadosky, Director of Public Works
Jennifer Klein, Secretary

Mary Lou Stamp welcomed new Commission member Bob Kowalewski.

II. Acceptance of Minutes:

Suzanne Lewis made a motion to accept the Minutes of November 17, 2014, seconded by Al Centone. All were in favor and the Minutes were accepted unanimously.

III. Correspondence:

None.

IV. Director's Report

Eileen Pettit, Assistant Director of Recreation

The annual Tree Lighting Ceremony was held on Sunday December 7, 2014. Hundreds of children and their parents enjoyed the festivities, which included face painting, cookie decorating, refreshments, pictures with Santa, a visit by Ronald McDonald. Mark and Mary Minotti and students from Minotti Music entertained the crowd with a variety of Christmas carols. With the help of Mark and Mary, the North Haven Rotary club and North Haven Interact club were on the green caroling. The day culminated with the lighting of the tree on the Town Green.

Ms. Pettit extended a special thanks to Mark and Mary Minotti for coordinating the entertainment, North Haven Knights of Columbus for providing hot chocolate, coffee and cookies, the staff from Coldwell Banker Real Estate for volunteering their time, and the North Haven Education Foundation for placing luminaries around the Green.

Open basketball for men 18 and older continues on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at Ridge Road through April 9, 2015 from 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Winter recreation and pool programs have begun.

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

The summer employment program continues. Recreation began accepting applications on Monday December 15th. Applications will close at 4:30 p.m. on March 13, 2015. At that time they will interview all the new applicants and fill the vacant spots. These positions are for camp counselors.

Planning continues for the Easter event which is scheduled for Saturday March 28, 2015. The event will run from 10:30 – 12:00. 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 Monday and Wednesday. Tuesdays will be used for make ups if needed. Registration begins the first week of March. Play begins April 13th.

Planning continues for summer concerts, employment, playgrounds, day camp, little rec'ers and sport camps. Summer camps will run June 29th through August 7th. A six week summer program is offered. Concerts will run 12 weeks beginning June 9th and conclude on August 25th.

Lynn K. Sadosky, Director of Public Works

Board of Education (BOE) Football concluded their Fall season on the Middle School Field on Thanksgiving Day, November 27, 2014.

Grover Wyman (Blakeslee) Park Playscape Maintenance Project – The contractor, Scholar Painting and Restoration, LLC of Seymour successfully completed its work on December 29, 2014. This work included the power washing, sanding and sealing of the treated wood surfaces within the playscape and the wooden fence, which surrounded the playscape and play equipment.

Annual Tree Lighting – the Annual Tree Lighting was held on Sunday, December 7, 2014 on the Town Green. The event was very successful and well attended.

Recreation Field Refurbishment – the Department had developed Bid specifications for the field refurbishment and installation of an irrigation system at the Recreation Center field. The contract work was awarded on April 23, 2014 with a caveat that work could not begin until after August 11, 2014 due to ongoing sporting club and Recreation Department use. Work commenced on September 22, 2014 and should have been completed on or before December 15, 2014. Because the scope of work was not followed and most of the work was not completed, the Town has turned the matter over to the Town Attorney.

STEAP Grant Applications – were submitted to the State of Connecticut's Office of Policy and Management (OPM) on October 31, 2014, for the following projects: Improvements to Central Block (defined as Linsley, Elm, Broadway and Church); Refurbishment of Montowese Park (to include a new playscape, bleachers, paving, and fencing); Refurbishment of Football Practice Field; Vanacore Field Complex Improvements (concession stand, bathrooms, meeting room, visitor's bleachers, and fencing); and Green Acres Elementary School Playscapes.

On January 7, 2015, the Department contacted the State's office of Policy and Management (OPM) as grants awards are expected to commence on January 15, 2015. The Department was informed however that grant awards may not be issued until January 30, 2015.

V. Old Business

Sponsor a Bench Program – In the November meeting a new 'Sponsor a Bench Program' was announced and initially discussed. Ms. Sadosky advised that the First Selectman's office is still in the process of getting answers to the questions asked at the November meeting. Mary Lou Stamp asked for a motion to table the discussion until the March meeting. Susan Puzycki made a motion to table the discussion, seconded by Frank Montagna. All were in favor.

VI. New Business

The Department received a request from Triple Crown, which is a youth baseball and softball tournament provider that has been operating in the State of Connecticut for the past 15 years. They asked the Department if there is any potential to rent some space at the Town or Board of Education's baseball and softball fields for usage for events during 2015.

A discussion followed among the Commission regarding the fact that there is a moratorium on the fields. Following the discussion, Al Centone made a motion to deny the request, seconded by Bob Kowalewski. All were in favor.

VII. Public Participation:

None.

VIII. Adjournment:

Chairman Stamp asked for a Motion to Adjourn. Motion made by Al Centone, seconded by Suzanne Lewis. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 5:47pm.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, March 16, 2015 at 5:30pm.