

DRAFT MINUTES/APPROVED

To: Parks & Recreation Commission Members
From: Eileen Pettit, Assistant Director of Recreation
Re: Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting September 21, 2015

Meeting was called to order by Chair, Mary Lou Stamp at 5:30pm.

I. Attendance:

Commissioners Present: Al Centone, Bob Kowalewski, Susan Puzycki,
Mary Lou Stamp

Commissioners Absent: Joe Cappucci, Suzanne Lewis, Frank Montagna

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

II. Acceptance of Minutes:

Susan Puzycki made a motion to accept the Minutes of March 16, 2015, seconded by Bob Kowalewski. 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 Easter event took place on Saturday March 28th. The event was well attended and everyone had a great time. Ms. Pettit gave a special thanks to Ellen Gomes and Lisa Holden from Calcagni Real Estate for volunteering to judge the Easter Bonnet and Top Hat contests. This was Ellen's 20th year as a judge.

The 22nd Annual Fishing Derby took place on Saturday, May 2, 2015 at Sinoway Pond on Upper State Street. Over 150 children registered for this event. Ms. Pettit reported that the event was very successful again this year and that the weather cooperated. Ms. Pettit gave a special thanks to the following for sponsoring and donating to the event: Tom Villano, McDonald's of Washington Avenue, Dunkin' Donuts of Washington Avenue, Dairy Queen of Whitney Avenue, Double J. Sound, DJ's Comics and Cards, Uncle B's Bait and Tackle, Southern CT Tackle, Town of North Haven Public Works Union, Fran's Learning Center, Scotty's Breakfast Connection, Hal Brown Sporting Goods.

Ms. Pettit reported that Rich Gaudio, the maintenance man for the Recreation Center and Pool, retired on June 17th. Rich served the Town of North Haven for 28 years. His service was exceptional. Neil Toti was hired to fill the position. Neil overlapped with Rich for a few weeks to ease the transition.

A tremendous number of participants were enrolled in the summer programs, which began June 29th and ended on August 7th. The playground programs were held at Clintonville, Ridge Road and Green Acres schools. The Montowese site was moved to Green Acres due to boiler work being done over the summer. Clintonville and Ridge Road averaged over 100 children on a daily basis. The numbers at Green Acres were lower. Many of the Montowese children went to Clintonville. The Day Camp program, held at the Recreation Center, accommodated an average of over 60 children for each of the 6 weeks.

The “Music Under the Stars” concert series concluded on August 25, 2015. Most concerts were extremely well attended. The weather played a huge part in this year’s turnout. She extended a special thanks to all the corporate sponsors for their continued support. She also thanked Police, Fire and Public Works for their assistance at each concert. She reported vendor issues were a lot less than past years.

Swim lessons went very well. Over 130 children enrolled in lessons during the summer.

The adult softball league ended on July 6th.

After the summer programs concluded, Recreation went into shut down schedule. The pool was closed the week of August 10th. The pool was drained. An inspection of the tiles, plugs, and drain showed all were in good condition. However, the diving board needed to be replaced.

During the following two weeks, the Recreation Center was cleaned from floor to ceiling. Recreation is now ready again for programs.

Fall pool hours are now in effect.

Registration is underway for fall recreation and pool programs. Many programs have begun or will begin in the next week or so.

The track lights are on at the Mike Vanacore Field. Lights will be on Monday through Thursday evenings, as weather permits, until December 10th.

North Haven High School Girls swim team began their season on August 27th.
(M-F – 2:30 - 5:00 PM)

Hamden North Haven Swim team began their season September 2nd. (M-W-F – 5-7 PM/Sat.
6:30-8:30 AM)

The annual Halloween Party is scheduled to take place on Friday, October 30, 2015, from 4:30 – 6:00 PM. There will be face painting, refreshments, pictures with the Great Pumpkin and entertainment. Ms. Pettit cordially invited the commissioners to attend.

Lynn K. Sadosky, Director of Public Works

North Haven Memorial Day Parade was held on Monday, May 23, 2015, from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon and included the use of Vanacore Field, Bailey Road Field and the Town Green.

Board of Education (BOE) Football commenced their Fall season on the Middle School Field on August 22, 2015.

Animal Haven Annual Tag Sale – was held on the Town Green on Saturday, May 30, 2015 and was very successful.

Annual Music Under the Stars Concert Series – the annual summer concert series commenced on the Town Green and featured twelve (12) concerts this year starting on June 9, 2015 and concluding August 25, 2015.

Family Movie Night as hosted by the Pond Hill Baptist Church was held on July 10, 2015 on the Town Green.

USA Elite Girls Softball Event – hosted their annual event from July 16 – 19, 2015 on the Gateway Complex, Bailey Road and Brook Fields and the DeMayo Athletic Complex. The event was another success.

Nutmeg Symphony Orchestra – this 50-piece Connecticut based orchestra held a summer concert on the Town Green from 4 P.M. to 6 P.M. on July 25, 2015.

Board of Education (BOE) Field Hockey commenced their Fall season on August 22, 2015 at the Brook Field.

Max Sinoway Baseball commenced with its Fall season on August 19, 2015 and will utilize Montowese Fields 1 – 4 through November 3rd, 2015.

North Haven Fall Baseball (Coach Tim Binkoski) has commenced its Fall season on Bailey Road for practices and games starting on August 23, 2015 and continuing through October 18, 2015.

Youth Football commenced with their Fall Season on the Gateway Complex on August 1, 2015 and Sunday games on Vanacore Field through November 21, 2015.

North Haven Soccer Club commenced with its Fall season on August 31, 2015 at Grover Wyman, Ridge Road and Memorial Fields and continue through November 14, 2015.

Free Yoga on the Town Green – Studio Ascend has reserved the Town Green for free Yoga on Sunday mornings (9 A.M. to 11 A.M.), September 13, 20, 27, 2015 and October 4, 18, 2015. A Special (free) Yoga Event benefiting Veterans and the Wounded Warrior Project will be held on September 20th from 9:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.

North Haven Youth Basketball – has scheduled the Canna Park Basketball Court for Sundays starting on September 13, 2015 and continuing through October 18, 2015.

North Haven Junior Indians commenced with its Fall season on Gateway Field 2 on July 17, 2015.

Board of Education (BOE) Tennis started its Fall season on August 22, 2015 at the DeMayo Complex and play is held on Thursdays.

Animal Haven Annual Walk-a-Dog-athon will be held on the Town Green on Sunday, October 25, 2015.

V. Old Business

None

VI. New Business

Approval of 2016 Schedule for the USA Elite Softball Tournament: USA Elite has requested the use of Gateway, Bailey Road and Brook Fields and the DeMayo Athletic Complex for the weekend of July 15-17, 2016. Ms. Sadosky was advised that Gateway is reserved for North Haven Girls Softball for all of July and is waiting to hear back from USA Elite if they wish to go forward without the use of Gateway. This will be discussed further at the November Commission meeting.

Sponsor a Bench Program: Ms. Sadosky reported that one bench has been purchased by the Knights of Columbus. It will be installed by Public Works on the Town Green where the Knights of Columbus designated. Ms. Stamp asked that the Commission be notified where the benches are going to be installed so that they could have input on where the benches are going to be placed. Ms. Stamp also asked that the Commission have input on the replacement of the existing benches that were donated. Ms. Sadosky stated she will try to contact the donors for additional input from them when the time comes for those benches to be replaced.

VII. Public Participation:

None.

VIII. Adjournment:

Chairman Stamp asked for a Motion to Adjourn. Motion made by Al Centone, seconded by Bob Kowalewski. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 5:44pm.

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