



**SHERMAN  
PARK AND RECREATION**

Mallory Town Hall  
Sherman, Connecticut 06784

(860) 354-3629

**SHERMAN PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**May 13, 2013**

**Present:**

Fran Frattini – Chairman  
Karen Kellett, Secretary  
John Wrenn – Director  
Kris Fazzino  
William Butts  
Stan Greenbaum  
Denise DePalma

**Absent:**

Scott Berlinger

**Guests:**

Present in the audience were: Joel Judd, Larry Lynch, Alvin Tuck, Debbie McGrath, Kyle Kellett, Kate McConaghy, Hank Von Anken, Clay Cope, Andrea O'Connor, Chris Jellen, The Swan Family (Christopher, Jennifer, Emilia and Marissa), John Jenner, Mary Roulat, Christina McDermott, Jimmy Munch, Jeanne Perlman, Barbara Ackerman, Steve Rofwarg, Charlie Reppenhagen, Ron Cooper, Joanne Wasniak, Barbara Ireland (This may not be a complete list of all in attendance)

**Call to order:**

Chairman Frattini called the May 13, 2013 Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 7:34pm.

**Minutes:**

*A motion to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2013 Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting minutes was made by Stan Greenbaum. The motion was seconded by William Butts and passed unanimously.*

Fran Frattini welcomed new Park and Recreation Commission member, Denise DePalma. She also invited guests to speak first, starting with Charlie Reppenhagen, representative of the Senior Housing Commission.

Mr. Reppenhagen shared details of the proposed senior housing project near Colonial Field. He displayed 3 different site map options for ingress and egress to the approximately 10 to

14 acres at Colonial Park that the Housing Commission has chosen for the Affordable/Senior housing project. The following topics were discussed: septic issues, land studies, easement concerns, traffic patterns, parking lot options, entrance/exit choices, considerations of adjacent children's play areas and possible movement of the community gardens. He noted that the project would be seeking 5013c status and was not a town project. He welcomed input from the Park and Recreation Commission. Fran Frattini thanked Mr. Reppenhagen and requested that no further decisions be made on the driveway/access road until the Park and Recreation Commission can review the proposals and come back to the Housing Commission with any possible concerns. It was noted that the safety of the children and keeping the trails intact were high priorities for both the Park and Rec. Commission and the Housing Commission.

Jim Munch gave a detailed description of every phase of the almost completed tree-harvesting project from Colonial Park to the town park. Mr. Munch noted the goal of the project was to cut out some strategically chosen large trees to allow the new growth to come up in a healthy way. He included his qualifications as a second level timber harvester, the cutting plan, safety precautions, where the brush and treetops were taken, Park and Recreation involvement in the project and rut repair issues. He noted that a part of the project would need to be continued in the fall so as to not interfere with the summer beach season. There was a discussion, including liability, safety, erosion, oversight issues, firewood availability, brush removal from roadside and weight load of logging trucks on Saw Mill Road bridge. It was noted that additional signage and trail closures may be helpful when the project resumes in the fall.

Joanne Wasniak of the Conservation Commission discussed possibly working in partnership with Park and Recreation to provide a workshop for the public on forestry practices.

There were five applications for use of facilities presented:

1. Debbie McGrath requested use of the pavilion on June 1 from 5pm to 8pm for 60 people. *A motion was made to accept the application by Kris Fazzino. The motion was seconded by Karen Kellett and passed unanimously.*

2. Jennifer Swan requested use of the pavilion on June 1 from 12pm to 3pm for a family birthday. *A motion to accept the application was made by Kris Fazzino. The motion was seconded by Karen Kellett and passed unanimously.*

3. John Jenner requested use of the pavilion on June 7 from 5pm to 8pm for a family party. *A motion to accept the application was made by Kris Fazzino. The motion was seconded by Karen Kellett and passed unanimously.*

4. Alvin Tuck on behalf of Boy Scout Troop 48 requested permission to camp out at the town park and have use of the pavilion from 8pm Saturday May 18 to 1pm Sunday May 19 for 30 people. *A motion to accept the applications and waive the fee for use of the pavilion was made by Stan Greenbaum. The motion was seconded by Kris Fazzino and passed unanimously.*

5. Kris Fazzone, on behalf of the Sherman Soccer Club, requested use of the pavilion on June 8 from 8am to 12noon as a rain location for an awards ceremony.

*A motion to accept the application and waive the fee for use of the pavilion was made by Stan Greenbaum. The motion was seconded by Karen Kellett and passed unanimously.*

Larry Lynch and Kyle Kellett described the process of Kyle's Eagle Scout project to build a dugout for Veterans Field. The dugout is currently in place at the ball field. There was a discussion, including permit requirements, involvement of various boards and organizations, liability, zoning issues, timing of project, safety considerations and options for remediation issues with the dugout.

*A motion to make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen that the Boy Scouts arrange to remove the dugout and place it at the town garage as soon as possible and then Park and Recreation will pursue proper permits was made by Kris Fazzone. The motion was seconded by Stan Greenbaum and passed unanimously.*

**Old Business:**

Fran Frattini sent a notice to the town clerk advising that the June regular Park and Recreation meeting is rescheduled from June 10, 2013 to June 3, 2013.

**New Business:**

1. There was a discussion about a proposal from the Conservation Commission for the reclamation of Munch Meadows. The intent is to remove invasive species in order to create a healthier habitat. Park and Recreation had no concerns with the proposal.

2. John Wrenn had received an email from Bill Pitt asking for "no parking" signs between pavilion and launch area at town park. It was suggested that wording be added to the sign to read "active loading/unloading zone". In addition, Mr. Wrenn noted that Seb Smith had requested a new "Community Garden" sign, as the present one is beyond repair. There was no objection to new signage in these areas.

3. Karen Kellett relayed information regarding the Summer Concert Series. All concerts will be on Saturdays at the pavilion at the town park at a time to be announced. Performers will be "The Pears" on July 27, "Cripple Creek" on August 24 and Don Lowe at a date to be announced. The "Big Berkshire Band" is on hold pending the passage of the town budget. Clay Cope requested that the Park and Recreation Commission do more marketing of the concert series than they have in the past and offered to Tweet about it on the day of each concert. It was suggested that the "What's Happening" section of the Hearst newspapers would be good advertising and that the pavilion needs to be power washed.

4. Kris Fazzone shared information about a request from Gene Ziegler. Mr. Ziegler would like to offer an ACL Prevention program at the Sherman School on June 1 from 12:30pm - 5:30pm for girls who turn 10 by August. He proposes to videotape the girls playing soccer, analyze the results and then advise the girls on core strengthening, speed and agility. He would charge \$40 per participant and wants the money to go towards equipment that can be used for the strength and agility training. There was a discussion, including the prevalence of

ACL problems with active adolescent girls, accessibility of the Sherman School at the time requested and Mr. Ziegler's qualifications.

*A motion to accept the proposal for an ACL prevention program for 10 - 13 year-old girls run by Gene Ziegler on or around June 1, 2013 was made by William Butts. The motion was seconded by Karen Kellett and passed unanimously.*

Kate McConaghy noted that the motion was accepted without proper vetting for an individual running a program that proposed to videotape young girls. Kris Fazzone noted that Gene Ziegler was a coach for the Sherman Soccer Club and, as such, had passed a background check. Mr. Fazzone suggested that Mr. Ziegler's interest in this area of injury prevention stemmed from having daughters who are in this age range and play soccer coupled with his knowledge of documented ACL problems in adolescent girls that can be prevented with proper training.

**Director' Report:**

John Wrenn reported the following information:

1. He had received an estimate of \$541 for repairs to the playground at Veterans' Field. Mr. Wrenn noted this would probably be scheduled for the next budget season.
2. SPARK had an average of 16 children daily in April and \$2,026 was deposited. The numbers were climbing steadily throughout the school year.
3. There is one kayak rack available.
4. Prediction is that gardens will be full again this year. They were already tilled and strung.
5. There is one boat slip left to be rented.
6. Beach passes will be available Saturdays from May 25 to June 22 and then starting on June 25, on weekdays.
7. Summer activity sign-up begins on Saturdays from May 25 to June 22 with no penalty; after that there is a \$20 additional fee. Camps begin on Tuesday June 25. No camps on Monday June 24 due to teacher day at the school. Summer staff is being interviewed and hired and more lifeguards may be needed. The hourly rate for lifeguards is not the lowest in the region but a little below average.
8. The activity in the Park and Recreation checkbook was reviewed, resulting in an ending balance as of 5/13/13 of \$3,761.93. There was only one transaction of \$100 paid to Splashdown Park as a deposit for a Senior Camp summer trip.

Kris Fazzone updated Commission on work done at the beach cottage by Joe Beatty: finished windows look good; lights don't work due to mice chewing through wiring. Door repair and financing of additional repairs was discussed.

Kris Fazzino made a motion to adjourn the May 13, 2013 Park and Recreation Regular Commission Meeting at 10:02pm. The motion was seconded by Denise DePalma and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Kellett  
Park and Recreation Secretary

Mary Jo Dix  
Recording Secretary

**These minutes are not considered official until they have been approved at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission.**