



**SHERMAN
PARK AND RECREATION**

Mallory Town Hall
Sherman, Connecticut 06784

(860) 354-3629

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

June 3, 2013

Present:

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

Absent:

Scott Berlinger

Guests:

Chris Jellen, Janine Johnson, Mark Howarth (Candlewood Lake Authority), Charlie Reppenhagen and Steve Rofwarg (Senior Housing Project) were present in the audience.

Call to order:

Chairman Frattini called the June 3, 2013 Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 7:35pm.

Minutes:

Fran Frattini noted that on page 4 of 5 of the May 13, 2013 minutes, the wording should have been one kayak “slip” was still available, not one kayak “rack”.

A motion to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2013 Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting minutes was made by Karen Kellett. The motion was seconded by Kris Fazzone and passed unanimously.

Correspondence:

There was no correspondence.

Old Business:

There was a discussion about entrance and egress to the Senior Housing Project. Charlie Reppenhausen showed drawings with suggested routes and asked for Park and Recreation's input. Included in discussion were the topics of right-of-way; set-backs from the road; impact on and effect of church traffic; sight lines; parking options; possible fencing, stone wall or shrubbery borders; proximity to well and septic systems; impact on playing fields; safety issues; traffic patterns and volume, both auto and human; possible relocation of small soccer field and community garden; need for an eventual taxpayer vote on project. It was decided that a physical walk through of the property by Senior Housing Project representatives and some Park and Recreation Commissioners was a needed. The walk through was planned for the morning of Saturday, June 8.

Jeanine Johnson submitted an application for use of the pavilion at the town park for June 23, 2013 from 10:00am – 2:00pm for 40 people for a birthday party.

A motion to accept the application for use of the pavilion was made by William Butts. The motion was seconded by Kris Fazzone and passed unanimously.

Mark Howarth of the Candlewood Lake Authority submitted an application for use of the town park and the pavilion for August 3 and 4, 2013 from 8am to 3pm for a Dragon Boat clinic. There would be 10 – 50 people depending on enrollment. The aim of the clinic is to train for the upcoming Dragon Boat USA race on August 17 and to raise awareness of the sport. There was a discussion including details about the Dragon Boat USA organization and the races they organize. Appropriate fees were discussed.

A motion to rent the pavilion to the Candlewood Lake Authority for a Dragon Boat USA clinic and charge \$100 for the 2-day event was made by Kris Fazzone. The motion was seconded by Stan Greenbaum and passed unanimously.

A motion to accept the application for use of the town park for the Dragon Boat USA clinic was made by Stan Greenbaum. The motion was seconded by Kris Fazzone and passed unanimously.

Mark Howard will relay information to the Dragon Boat USA staff about submitting checks for fee and deposit.

The Cub Scouts submitted an application to use Allen's Camp for a hot dog roast and family campout from 3pm on June 7 to 10am on June 8.

A motion to accept the application for use of Allen's Camp was made by Karen Kellett. The motion was seconded by Denise DePalma and passed unanimously.

Dugout has been removed from Veterans Field. There was a discussion about future dugouts for the ball fields, including permits needed; condition of the dugout that was removed; Park and Recreation's previous approval of the concept of dugouts on the fields; the possible need to involve First Light in a dugout project due to flowage rights. Fran Frattini and Kris Fazzone agreed to work on investigating the permit process. Denise DePalma volunteered to help if needed.

The town budget not passing was discussed, including the effect on Park and Rec's budget: \$500 was removed from the Concert Series line item, dock replacement was removed as well as \$5,000 for tennis courts. Park and Recreation's dock replacement plan was reviewed. The main premise of the plan was to replace 4 fingers of the docks each year until they were all done. The first four were done and then there has been no more funding. The effects of upkeep of town facilities on income and liability were discussed. Chris Jellen noted that Park and Recreation could request being added to Selectmen's agenda to get allocation from capital non-recurring funds. Mrs. Frattini noted that this request would then have to go to a Town Meeting.

Leash use for dogs on town property was discussed, including history, specific laws and recommendations to Selectmen in the past. It was noted that current State law reads that the dog must be under the owner's control. Kris Fazzone would like to see Park and Recreation request that the Selectmen institute a leash law. This will be discussed further at a future Park and Rec. Commission meeting.

Tree work by Jim Munch at the town park was reviewed. Area is cleaned up; logs in the back will stay there. It was noted that the area looks wonderful and has opened up lots of trail opportunities. Jim Munch will clean up tops of trees in the fall. As noted at the Special Board of Selectmen's meeting, it is possible that a forester will be involved in future work at the park.

Signs at the boat launch were discussed. Kris Fazzone relayed that Rich Lenihan from the Sherman library may have some ideas that could help with Park and Recreation's general sign needs. (Such as some sandwich board type signs that they no longer need)

Karen Kellett noted that there was a typographical error in the Park and Recreation summer brochure; the first concert by "The Pears" is on July 27, not the July 2 as printed.

Kris Fazzone reported that the ACL Prevention workshop went very well and that he felt Sherman was fortunate to have this valuable training offered practically for free. Gene Ziegler, who ran the workshop, will follow up with the participants and may run this event again next year.

There was a discussion about the flags mounted on phone poles around town for Memorial Day and compliments to the Veterans who had fixed flags and Mr. Butts advised that they have replaced about 3 dozen stolen or ruined flags.

New Business:

There was a discussion about the "Sherman Steps Up" volunteer program. Denise DePalma described it as about 25 different community volunteer organizations brainstorming about all the areas in town where volunteers are needed. The plan is for an educational fair where each organization will have a table with the goals of raising awareness of volunteer opportunities, collaborating with other organizations and sharing resources.

The possibility of Park and Recreation having a table was discussed. It was noted that volunteers may be needed by Park and Recreation in areas like adult education instructors, trail maintenance and helping students who need to do community service as a high school requirements.

The volunteer fair will be on June 29 on the green and will be partnered with a Chamber Ensemble event. It was suggested that highlighting those folks who already volunteer would be a good idea. There are plans to do more than one volunteer fair per year. The possibility of a link on town website to volunteer opportunities was discussed. No one was available to attend the June 29th event but it was suggested that a volunteer sign up sheet could be made available at Park and Rec. Summer Program signup.

Director' Report:

John Wrenn reported the following information:

1. SPARK had an average of 14 - 15 children daily in May and collected \$4,307.00.
2. Camp sign-up started slowly on Memorial Day Saturday. It was not printed in the paper but would hopefully be in this week. Brochures will likely be sent out via classrooms this week. Brochures had been placed around town and it was on the website. This Saturday (June 8) sign ups will be held in the multi-purpose room due to the voting in the cafeteria.
3. Beach passes are available: up through June 22, on Saturdays and then, starting June 25, Monday through Friday throughout the summer.
4. Beach will open on the weekend of June 15 and 16 and then opens full time starting at noon on Friday June 21.
5. Camp counselors and lifeguards have been hired.
6. Beach pass guard shack will be moved out of parking lot to fork in the road.
7. Check book report was distributed, with an ending balance of \$3761.93

A brief discussion about merits of field trips to Yankee games and New Britain Rock Cats games followed.

There was a discussion about electrical repairs needed at the Beach Office, including what's currently being done, estimates needed and funding for repairs. Kris Fazzino agreed to call electrician Mark Audette.

Stan Greenbaum made a motion to adjourn the June 3, 2013 Park and Recreation Regular Commission Meeting at 9:55pm. The motion was seconded by Kris Fazzino 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.