



SHERMAN PARK AND RECREATION

Mallory Town Hall
Sherman, Connecticut 06784

(860) 354-3629

Minutes of Regular Meeting May 12, 2014

Present:

Fran Frattini – Chairman
Denise DePalma
Kris Fazzino
Stan Greenbaum
William Butts

Absent:

John Wrenn – Director
Scott Berlinger
Karen Kellett – Secretary

Guests:

Michele Hansen, Jeannette Perlman, Emerson Noto, Kyle Thomson, Karl Music

Call to order:

Chairman Frattini called the May 12, 2014 Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 7:19pm.

Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2014 Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting minutes was made by Stan Greenbaum. The motion was seconded by Kris Fazzino and passed unanimously.

Pavilion Rentals:

An application had been received from Cub Scout Troop #84 for use of Allens Camp and the pavilion for a Family Campout for 6 families from 3pm on June 6 until 10am June 7. *A motion was to accept this application and waive the rental fee but require the key deposit was made by Denise DePalma and seconded by Stan Greenbaum; motion was voted with all in favor and passed.*

It was noted that there was already a June 7 rental of the pavilion but it was from 2:00 – 5:00pm so there is no conflict. Also noted, a May 10 pavilion rental was rained out.

Correspondence:

There was an email received regarding a need for clay at Volunteer Park field. It had been sent by Emerson Noto, who was present as a guest. Fran Frattini updated Mr. Noto on the progress being made toward getting new clay. It was noted that although there was no definite date for delivery of clay, the project was in the works and Mrs. Frattini, John Wrenn and Donny Borkowski had connected on this issue. Mr. Noto stated that he would prefer the clay be installed sooner than later as the lack of it was a hazard to the t-ball and softball players. The players were susceptible to rolling their ankles and sliding was unsafe during their 2-3 home games each week.

Guest Kyle Thomson, Life Scout from Troop 48 was asked to present his proposal for an Eagle Scout project. The project was described as building - new benches at the tennis courts. Fran Frattini asked Kyle about a written proposal with details including a time line. Removal of the present benches and the scope of this proposed project were discussed. Mr. Butts agreed to be the commission representative on site when the project gets started. *Kris Fazzino made a motion to accept Kyle Thomson's proposed Eagle Scout project and Stan Greenbaum seconded; motion was voted with all in favor and passed.* The possibility of repairs to the bench at the basketball courts was discussed. Mrs. Frattini and Mr. Butts will investigate and connect with Kyle at a later date.

Old Business:

Michelle Hansen and Jeanette Perlman from the Commission on Aging presented an update on the ASH (Affordable Senior Housing) project. They stated there is a link on the Sherman town website to the project. Included in the presentation were the following items:

- Maps and renderings of the project and those of similar projects in other towns
- Input will be requested from other groups in town
- The location of the access road, going in near Holy Trinity Church, taking an immediate right along the stone wall and affecting the garden at all
- Possibilities for piggybacking other projects along with ASH, like getting water to the gardens
- How safety was always the main concern of both Park and Rec and the Commission on Aging and how that has been addressed
- A FAQ sheet is being created and suggestions are welcome
- Possible new stop light at entrance
- Possible extension of sidewalk
- Concept of flagging the area to give people a better concept of the scope of project
- Enhancement of the trails for ADA accessibility
- Affordable versus low income housing

- May 31 Forum for information on ASH from 10 am-1pm at the Sherman School cafeteria
- 12-14 units approved for Phase 1 and in the future another phase may be explored
- Financial arrangements and budgeting within the project
- Manual from management that will be given to all residents with rules and regulations
- Project will use universal design so that areas are accessible to all, including emergency services.
- Water supply, sprinkler systems and need to connect with fire department
- June 14 vote to allow ASH to have control of the land and from there proceed to other applications
- Request from Park and Rec Commission that ASH's rules and regulation use compliance with Park and Rec's rules and regulations as a minimum standard for ASH

Fran Frattini passed out a playground inspection report received from Frank Spaziani. The inspection cost \$1,000 and included quotes for repairs to town park playground at \$6,150 and Veterans Field playground at \$7, 680. The repairs were broken down into Class A and Class B hazards and each was discussed. Also discussed was what part of the labor the town crew could manage, what part of the materials Park and Rec could acquire at what price and involvement of the Facilities Manager in this process.

William Butts made a motion that the Park and Recreation Commission endorse the playground repair project with the Facilities Manager coming up with the best price utilizing town employees. Stan Greenbaum seconded Motion voted with all in favor and passed.

It was noted that the commission will speak with the Facilities Manager to come up with a plan utilizing town employees to address all Class A repairs. It was suggested that John Wrenn and a member of the commission work with the Facilities Manager on developing a proposal. Kris Fazzone noted that he had seen damage at the Veterans playground to a set of rings on the Rte. 37 side of play equipment and this was not on the inspection report.

Mrs. Frattini noted that the town budget had passed. A discussion followed, including the fact that Park and Recreation generates more income than any other town department. Approved capital improvements were discussed, including funds for 5 docks to be replaced each year for the next 4 years at a cost of \$23,000 per 5-dock section, \$15,000 per year for four years for boardwalk repairs and \$500 for beach office repairs. It was noted that no funds were approved for improvements to Veterans Field bathhouse but the operating budget was completely approved.

All boat slips are rented, with one out of town resident (who is the Resident Trooper) renting a slip at the resident rate. The commission had approved this rental and hoped it would add more security to the town park.

Other possible exceptions were discussed. It was noted that after April 15 of this year, boat slip rental was opened up to non-residents with an added fee; residents pay \$950 and non-residents pay \$1,100.

It was reported that the proposal to form a Facilities Committee was tabled by the BOS. Park and Rec had recommended forming a committee with a representative from each community agency that has facilities to work with the Facilities Manager. This would be a collaboration to develop a guidelines and a calendar for facilities maintenance. It was suggested that this type of group could be formed informally, with a single representative from each agency.

New Business:

There was no new business.

Director's Report:

John Wrenn was absent due to coaching an out of town night baseball game. He sent his report and it included the following information:

- There was an approval given to the Timber Trails Property Owners to use the pavilion on June 7 from 2:00-5:00pm.

- An application form for use of the Town Park was sent to Ken Winklestern, a Scout leader in New Milford, who will be camping overnight at Green Island on June 7th and 8th. It was noted that historically this application has been approved and includes permission to park at the beach and launch canoes. *A motion to accept the New Milford Boy Scouts application for use of the Town Park for their trip to Green Island on June 7th and was made by Kris Fazzone. Stan Greenbaum seconded: motion was voted with all in favor and passed.*

- Mr. Wrenn would like to hire Danielle Christie as the Junior Camp Director and Gina Romano as the Assistant Director. There was a discussion. *A motion was made by Kris Fazzone to hire Danielle Christie as Junior Camp Director and Gina Romano as Assistant Director. Denise DePalma seconded; motion was voted with all in favor and passed.*

- SPARK had an average of 10 children per day with some days at 14 and some at 6. \$1,470 was deposited with a total from August 2013 to present being \$12, 157. The decline in overall school population was discussed.

- The revised copy of the facilities inventory was distributed and Mr. Wrenn requested feedback on it.

- Mr. Wrenn had shared Sherman Park and Recreation's community garden paperwork with New Fairfield's First Selectman. Increasing garden plot fees was discussed.

The April checking account report was included, with the balance as of 4/12/14 being \$4,431.84. One check was written for \$306.75 as reimbursement for summer trips deposits made by Rich Sheridan, leaving the balance as of 5/12/14 at \$4,125.09.

Mr. Wrenn stated that the new procedure of having boat owners come to the office for beach passes, slip assignments and rules/regulations paperwork is working well.

Summer Camp begins on June 23 and runs for 6 weeks. Registration begins Saturday, May 31 during regular office hours.

Kris Fazzino made a motion to adjourn the May 12, 2014 Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting at 9:12pm. The motion was seconded by William Butts 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.**