



SHERMAN PARK AND RECREATION

Mallory Town Hall
Sherman, Connecticut 06784

(860) 354-3629

Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Minutes of Regular Meeting August 8, 2016

Present:

Fran Frattini-Chairman
Stan Greenbaum
John Wrenn-Director
Denise DePalma
Kris Fazzone
William Butts

Absent:

Scott Berlinger
Karen Kellett

Guests: Karen Cushnie, Michael Carroll and his Dad

Call to order:

Chairman Fran Frattini called the August 8, 2016 Regular Meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 7:17pm.

Minutes from July 11, 2016 Regular Meeting:

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2016 Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting was made by Stan Greenbaum. The motion was seconded by Kris Fazzone and passed unanimously.

Correspondence:

There was no correspondence.

Fran Frattini invited guests to speak at this time. Michael Carroll presented his proposed Eagle Scout project: building and installing a swinging bench and 2 Adirondack chairs for the Town Park. There was a discussion, including materials to be used, appropriate locations, safety issues related to swinging bench, supervision of project, time frame, order of approvals from town boards needed for projects.

Kris Fazzone made a motion to accept Michael Carroll's proposed Eagle Scout project to build and install a swinging bench and 2 Adirondack chairs at locations to be determined but definitely above the 440 with Commission member William Butts to be the contact person. Stan Greenbaum seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The Commission wished Michael good luck.

Karen Cushnie presented information about the tennis courts and their planned repairs/restoration. There was a discussion including; options for repairs to two or three of the tennis courts; writing specs for contractors; the bidding process; a review of proposals from five companies that do repairs to tennis courts; the advantage of doing all 3 courts at the same time. It was noted that the specs for the bidding process should include everything that is needed for the project, including cost of removing debris like fencing, poles and carpet removal, as well as a breakdown of the costs for repairs to two courts and for all three courts. It was suggested that a spreadsheet be created showing a comparison of all facets of project from each bidding company. Karen Cushnie noted that there may be grant money available from the United States Tennis Association for tennis court repairs and that Clay Cope has the form for submission to USTA, who usually responds within 30 days. Ms. Cushnie also noted that the USTA website has information that may be helpful for specifications for tennis court sizes and materials. Ms. Cushnie had volunteered to help with the planning and the bidding process for repairs to courts. There is a subcommittee of Ms. Cushnie, John Wrenn and Stan Greenbaum that will continue to work together on this project. The next tennis court subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Thursday August 11 at 9:30 at the Park and Recreation office. Mr. Wrenn will send specs to Fran Frattini who will distribute to Commission for review before sending them to BOS.

Facilities Use:

1. Cub Scouts had requested use of the Town Park pavilion on August 19 from 5:00 – 8:00pm. *Kris Fazzone made a motion to accept the Cub Scout application for use of the Town Park pavilion on August 29 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm and for the fee to be waived. William Butts seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.*

2. There was a request for the use of the Town Park pavilion for an Eagle Scout ceremony from Troop 48 on August 28 from 3:00pm to 8:00pm. *Kris Fazzone made a motion to accept the request for use of the Town Park pavilion on August 28 from 3:00pm to 8:00pm in the name of Troop 48 and for the fee to be waived. Denise DePalma seconded. There was a discussion and the motion was passed unanimously.*

3. There was a request for the use of the Town Park parking lot for overnight parking of a few cars by a New Milford Boy Scout troop that would be camping on Green Island one weekend in September. Mrs. Frattini reported that she had a verbal request and wanted to get commission approval in case the campout date is before the September meeting. There was a discussion, noting that this will be after the park has closed for the season. *Kris Fazzone made a motion to accept the request for use of the Town Park parking lot for overnight parking for a few cars for a New Milford Boy Scout troop in September while they camp on Green Island. William Butts seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*

Mr. Wrenn noted that there were 2 August concerts in the Summer Series at the Town Park pavilion coming soon: “The Funnels” on Sunday, August 14 from 3:00pm to 6:00pm and the recently added “Damaged Freight” on Sunday, August 21 from 4:00pm to 7:00pm. Denise DePalma noted that the recent jazz concert put on by “Dave Wonsey and Friends” was wonderful.

Old Business:

Fran Frattini updated the commission on the proposed dog ordinance, including: presentation made at recent BOS meeting; history of Park and Recreation Commission's efforts to get dog ordinance enacted since 2008; plans to review situation a year from instituting dog ordinance to measure efficacy and possible other actions needed like banning dogs from certain properties; possibility of BOS taking proposal to town meeting; previous email sent to BOS requesting joint meeting between Park and Recreation Commission and BOS. There was a discussion, including the Commission's expectation that BOS members would have attended tonight's meeting.

John Wrenn described repairs needed to playground at Veterans Field. Mr. Wrenn had researched the specific repairs and had given Clay Cope the details. It was noted that the repairs should be completed by September 10. It was noted that ideally there would have been a discussion beforehand with the Park and Recreation Commission.

Basketball repairs are completed and look good. It was noted that there was \$600 in the capital budget from last year for basketball court fencing repairs but somehow Park and Recreation was not allowed to use that money. It will be looked into.

Veterans Field bathroom repairs were discussed. It was noted that research on the subject is being done. The subject of getting water at the community gardens was discussed, including digging a well, building a cistern and using rain barrels. Fran Frattini noted that the town beach had been closed temporarily due to the goose excrement problem, not an algae problem. Mr. Wrenn stated that they had been having a good result keeping geese off beach recently by using pinwheels and Mylar ribbon staked across the beach.

The Munch Meadow fencing project was discussed. It was noted that the Commission had agreed that the fence should be replaced, the money was approved in the budget, and Bill McCann from the Historical Commission was told to contact Donny Borkowski from Public Works but was told by Don Lowe that the BOS does not want the fence installed. The Park and Recreation Commission property management mission and procedures were discussed including: getting and responding to requests from community groups like the Conservation Commission; responding with a plan; getting funds approved; expecting the BOS to support not block the plan. There was more discussion, including examining old photos of Munch Meadows.

Clay Cope's letter requesting John Wrenn's resignation and listing 20 items of complaint was again discussed. Mr. Wrenn noted that he still has not received any follow up correspondence or conversation with Mr. Cope after he refused to resign.

There is money in the budget for new barbecue grills for the Town Park. It was noted that they should be ordered and installed as soon as possible. It was further noted that when they were ordered the last time they were delivered but then subsequently disappeared before they could be installed.

There was a discussion about Clay Cope's request to John Wrenn to get Mike Carpanzano to wash, sand, and paint and in some cases repair benches and bleachers at all town parks. The estimated cost was \$4,000 from Mr. Carpanzano, which was not broken down by individual item.

Mr. Carpanzano had stated that if the job was done piecemeal and broken down into individual projects then the total price would be higher. It was noted that there was not money in the budget for this total project but that perhaps Veterans Field was a priority. The color and types of paint or stain to be used were discussed. The proposal called for all picnic tables to be washed sanded and painted hunter green. Clear satin polyurethane was to be used on unpainted surfaces. There was further discussion.

Kris Fazzino made a motion to approve the part of Mike Carpanzano's proposal to repair, sand and paint or stain benches and bleachers at Veterans Field, including the bench on the knoll. Denise DePalma seconded. There was a discussion about the cost and about possibly completing the other parts of the proposal in the spring. There was a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

John Wrenn distributed his written proposal for a revised Boat Dock Registration form for 2017. Mr. Wrenn's proposal was prompted by growing number of issues with residents having larger and larger boats and the slips not accommodating them as well as they used to. The proposal includes a separate boat lottery for all boats larger than 8 feet wide at the annual boat lottery to be held on October 1, 2016 at Mallory Town Hall at 10:00am. It will be advertised and a notice of this change along with the new revised form will be mailed to current boat slip renters. It was noted that if the boat size is not written in on the registration form, the form will be invalid and not eligible for the lottery. There was a discussion, including a request for the addition of a line for email address to be added to the new 2017 Boat Dock Registration form. Mr. Wrenn will add that line and highlight the fact that this second lottery is a new procedure.

Kris Fazzino made a motion to approve the newly revised 2017 Boat Dock Registration form and procedure as proposed by John Wrenn but with the addition of a line for email address on the form. Denise DePalma seconded. There was further discussion about boat owner's being allowed to rent a second, adjacent slip to accommodate their boat and that the second slip would cost 50% of the first. All agreed. There was a vote. The motion passed with Stan Greenbaum abstaining due to the fact that he was a boat owner. Motion carried.

It was noted that further improvements to the boat slip configuration were in the future plans for replacement of the floating sections of the docks and that the plan includes the accommodation of wider boats while possibly only losing one or two slips overall.

It was noted that there had been a request from a resident to create more kayak racks that were closer to the ground for shorter people to be able to reach. It was advised that if a kayak rack renter were to come on the first day for kayak rack registration a suitable space could be acquired. Kayak rack registration typically begins the third Saturday in April. It is unlikely that more racks will be built in the foreseeable future.

Director's Report:

John Wrenn shared the following information:

1. There was a proposed Monday karate class for ages 5 and 6 at 6:00PM and ages 7 through adult at 6:45PM. The class is for 10 weeks, cost \$70 for first family member and \$60 for each additional family member, and will be taught by Tracey Barenowski.

2. Veterans Field gazebo needed repairs to steps and the slab at the base of steps. Mr. Wrenn advised that the necessary repairs had been completed. The light and the weather vane have been fixed; both were tilting.
4. Clay Cope had arranged for parts of Veterans Field to be seeded.
5. The bike rack has been painted
6. A rusty pipe near bike rack has been painted.
7. The backstop is in the process of being painted.
8. Outside of beach office has been painted.
9. Bleachers at Veterans field have been painted and are already peeling.
10. Basketball court has been resurfaced and looks good.
11. The tops of the poles on the Veterans Field playground have been painted bright blue and look good.
12. The wood in basketball court has been repaired.
13. Summer camp attendance statistics were as follows:
 - Camp Sampler - 8
 - Senior Camp - 84
 - Junior Camp - 23
 - Swim lessons - 73
 - Tennis - 16
 - Baseball - 9 (going on this week)
 - Soccer - 13 so far - scheduled for next week

It was also suggested that a free day of ASP be offered to camp participants in order to boost interest and future enrollment. John Wrenn noted that the end of the 2015-16 ASP budget was even better, “more in the black”, than previously reported due to end of the season collections.

The next Park and Recreation Commission Regular Monthly Meeting will be on Monday, September 12

Kris Fazzone made a motion to adjourn the August 8, 2016 Park and Recreation Regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Stan Greenbaum and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:22pm.

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***