



## SHERMAN PARK AND RECREATION

Mallory Town Hall  
Sherman, Connecticut 06784

(860) 354-3629

### **Minutes of Regular Meeting August 11, 2014**

#### **Present:**

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

#### **Absent**

Denise DePalma  
Karen Kellett  
Scott Berlinger

#### **Guests:**

Dylan Shiland (Boy Scout) was present in the audience.

#### **Call to order:**

Chairman Fran Frattini called the August 11, 2014 Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 7:24pm.

#### **Minutes:**

*A motion to approve the July 14, 2014 Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting minutes was made by Stan Greenbaum. The motion was seconded by Kris Fazzone and the minutes were unanimously accepted as written.*

#### **Pavilion Rentals**

John Wrenn described an application for use of Veterans Field by about 200 people for the annual community softball event on Saturday, September 6 from 1:00 – 8:00. There was a discussion.

*Stan Greenbaum made a motion to accept the application for the use of Veterans Field on September 6, 2014 from 1:00 to 8:00 for a community softball game. The motion was seconded by William Butts and was accepted unanimously.*

In addition Mr. Wrenn noted that there had been \$1500 collected in pavilion rental fees. Removal of garbage, obtaining a dumpster and numbers of actual

attendees at pavilion events were discussed.

Dylan Shiland, spoke to the commission about a proposed Eagle Scout project of a 5K run on April 4 with proceeds to go to a local non-profit. Possible routes on Church Road for the run, non-profit recipients, use of police or constables, traffic permits, parking issues at the church and overflow parking were discussed. Fran Frattini advised Mr. Shiland- 2 -d to decide on the non-profit recipient and then have a representative of that organization come to Park and Recreation to apply for use of Volunteer Park. Mr. Shiland should attend the meeting also. Mrs. Frattini also advised Mr. Shiland to speak with Scott Berlinger who has a lot of experience with organizing local road races. Babbling brook Farm was suggested for possible overflow parking. Veterans Field to the beach to the library and back was suggested as a possible alternative route for the race.

Dylan Shiland will get back to the commission. Mrs. Frattini gave Dylan a copy of the Town's Event Planning Guidelines to help with his organizing of the event.

### **Correspondence:**

John Wrenn had received a survey from First Light requesting numbers of docks at the town beach, visitors per month, picnic tables and other facts about the town park. Mr. Wrenn described the trend over the past few decades at the beach; it used to be heaviest use on weekends and quiet during the week, then the pattern flipped to be busy during the week, quieter on weekends. Currently the beach is busy all week long.

Fran Frattini had received from Frank Spaziani an estimate for replacement of the gutters on the Scout House for \$2,145 and had filed an application to the Historic District Commission for a Certificate of Appropriateness for those gutters, which is on their agenda this evening. The estimate was for 92 feet of 6-inch half round stainless steel 32 gauge white gutters. There was a discussion, including a question about the need for such costly gutters in a remote historic location.

### **Old Business:**

Fran Frattini reported that an application has been filed with Inland Wetlands for Kyle Thompson's Eagle Scout project to replace the two benches at Veterans Field near the Tennis Courts and it will be on the agenda at their August meeting on Tuesday of next week.

The dugouts were discussed. Mrs. Frattini had again emailed Brian Wood of FirstLight about the dugouts and has still not heard back.

There was a discussion about permits and bids for work on dock replacement. It was noted that at a recent Town Meeting funds for the first section of docks and boardwalk had been approved but the request for beach house repairs was declined.

John Wrenn and Fran Frattini had attended a Board of Selectmen meeting to discuss the SPARK program. Included in the discussion were budgetary issues, history of and need for the program and school population decline. Budgeted versus break-even basis for SPARK operation was discussed. It was noted that some services are needed even if they do not consistently break even. Coordinating SPARK with library programs was discussed. Mr. Wrenn will ask Danielle Christie to speak with Sherman Library staff.

Problems related to roaming and unleashed dogs on town property were discussed, including difficulties with enforcement. It was reported that the Trooper has been alerted to this problem on Municipal property and the Dog Warden for the rest of the Town.

A recent meeting with Frank Spaziani was discussed, including a plan to get Mr. Spaziani, Donny Borkowski, John Wrenn and Stan Greenbaum to sit together to discuss projects like the repairs to the playground at Veterans Field. Mr. Wrenn and Mr. Greenbaum would like to address some of the issues described in the recent estimate received by Park and Recreation. Noting that Park and Rec. would be ordering over 40 yards of playground mulch and that the school needs about 6 yards, the Commission advised Mr. Wrenn to contact Mr. Spaziani and advise him that Park and Rec. would give the school the 6 yards of mulch.

In addition, supervision of proper installation of docks was discussed, including removal of old material, processes to prevent future damage, removal of boardwalk small sections at a time and replacing that section on the same day and timing of installation. It was noted that the commission recommends to the Board of Selectmen that spring would be the preferred season for installation. Trex versus wood on the boardwalk and dock fingers was discussed, including anticipated wear and tear on both parts of dock systems. Park and Recreation recommends Trex decking. Cost was discussed. The history of dredging the cove was discussed.

**New Business:**

There was no new business.

**Director's Report:**

John Wrenn distributed the July 2014 checking account report, with a balance of \$4,947.10 as of 8/6/14. It was noted that soccer camp funds will be reflected in the September report.

In addition, Mr. Wrenn noted the following:

1. There had been some problems with residents getting keys for the pavilion for their reserved time. The keys are supposed to be picked up one week before the rental date. Some renters were asking for them the day of their event when the Park and Recreation office was closed. Mr. Wrenn will try to call renters to remind them.
2. The weeds in the swim area were cut for \$500. There had been one bid to cut weeds for \$4500. There have been no significant complaints.
3. Playground hazards were reiterated; some have been dealt with already.
4. Camp is going well. Surveys regarding field trips had been given to both campers and parents. Campers did their surveys at camp and parents were not very responsive. Parent results: Favorite trip was Splashdown with 13 votes; least favorite category got 10 votes for "none" and 4 votes for Kent Falls. As for the number of field trips, 14 thought it was just right; one thought it was too many. Campers' results: 26 votes for Splashdown as favorite trip, least favorite was Kent Falls with 15 votes. 9 campers thought the number of trips was just right and 6 thought there were not enough. The conclusion was that trips were done well. There was a discussion about holding camp when there was a trip for those that decided not to attend trip, including the difficulty in appropriately staffing such an option.
5. Program enrollments were described as follows:  
Senior Camp-84, Junior Camp-37, Swim lessons: session I-29, session II-27, session III-17, baseball camp-21, soccer camp-14, beach passes-406 given out. There was a discussion about the cost of distributing beach passes from the Park and Recreation office, charging for beach passes and past efforts to distribute them at town hall. Budget process was discussed, including how often Park and recreation brings in funds to offset costs of a program.

Mr. Wrenn reported on a mistaken charge to a Park and Rec. Budget Line Item which was reported to the Business Administrator and First Selectman in early June by both Mr. Wrenn and then Mrs. Frattini. It appears that the Assistant Park and Rec. Director Line Item was charged for the SPARK Director's time for paperwork and recordkeeping which should have been charged to either the Part-time Help line or the SPARK line. Discussion followed.

*Stan Greenbaum made a motion to restore funds to the Assistant Director line item that had been used to pay the SPARK Director in order to pay the Park and Recreation Director \$1,000 due him for time he worked. Kris Fazzone seconded the motion and it was accepted unanimously. Mrs. Frattini will advise the First Selectman of this motion.*

Kris Fazzone had left the commission meeting at this point to attend the Historic District Commission meeting down the hall to get information regarding the gutters for the Scout House. He returned to report the following: the Scout House roof needs to be reassessed before proceeding with gutters; sharing the cost with the commission was not an option; requesting necessary funds from capital non-recurring budget seemed appropriate; the Historic District Commission had no problem with the gutters described in the estimate but would not approve a different/less expensive type

*William Butts made a motion to adjourn the August 11, 2014 Park and Recreation Regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Stan Greenbaum and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:02pm.*

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.***