



## SHERMAN PARK AND RECREATION

Mallory Town Hall  
Sherman, Connecticut 06784

(860) 354-3629

### **Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Minutes of Regular Meeting June 8, 2015**

#### **Present:**

Fran Frattini-Chairman  
Stan Greenbaum  
Denise DePalma  
Scott Berlinger  
Kris Fazzino  
John Wrenn-Director

#### **Absent**

William Butts  
Karen Kellett

**Guests:** Amy Smith (left at 7:25)

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

Chairman Fran Frattini called the June 8, 2015 Regular Meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 7: 32 pm.

#### **Minutes from May 18 Special Meeting:**

Fran Frattini noted a correction in the May 18 minutes. On the last page where it read "May 28" it should have read "May 18".

*A motion to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2015 Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Special Meeting as corrected was made by Kris Fazzino. The motion was seconded by Stan Greenbaum and passed unanimously.*

#### **Correspondence:**

Fran Frattini shared an email from Amy Smith to Clay Cope concerning a request for a commemorative plaque to honor Robert F. Cowan for his 23 years of volunteer service to girls' softball. There was a discussion, including possible placement of such a plaque at Volunteer Park, styles of plaques, as well as other volunteers that might be deserving of such a tribute.

After considerable discussion, the Commission noted plans to research the creation of a formal process to honor long term volunteers in service to the town on an individual

basis. The topics of discussion included length of service to qualify, Historical Society involvement for volunteers from long ago and possible ways to deter vandalism. All Commission members present agreed to table the discussion of developing a formal process until a future meeting and regret not being able to accommodate Amy Smith's request within her preferred timeline.

### **Old Business**

1. The trails between Colonial Field and the Town Park had been marked by the Boy Scouts and the white trails were going to be re-done, according to Alvin Tuck.
2. John Wrenn had gotten an estimate to remove the old, broken web climber at the playground and replace it with new climber. The cost will be \$1,300 and Clay Cope had advised Mr. Wrenn it will come out of Capital Improvements.
3. Fran Frattini reported that she had dropped off Statements of Intent for both the Eagle Scout bench project on Volunteer Field and the dugouts at Veterans Field with Ron Cooper.
4. There was a discussion about the former SPARK program and its proposed reincarnation to the "After School Program", including a detailed financial breakdown showing projected income and expenses. John Wrenn and Fran Frattini attended a recent Board of Selectmen meeting to discuss the proposal and were asked to provide the proposed income and expenses of the program. It appears that an average of 6 children per day could create a break-even position for this proposed program. The possibility of instituting credit card use for payments was discussed in depth, as well as several options for registering for the program. Mrs. Frattini noted that there will need to be some sort of commitment of a certain number of children before the end of June before the program could be considered "a go" for the 2015-16 school year. All agreed that there needed to be an investigation of implementing credit card use for Park and Recreation programs.
5. The new printers at the Park and Rec office were discussed. Mr. Wrenn asked Stan Greenbaum to help him with some additional training on the machines. Mr. Greenbaum is has reasonable rates on ink cartridges and was asked to advise the First Selectman's office of where to purchase.

### **New Business:**

There was no new business.

### **Pavilion and Facilities Rentals:**

1. The Boy Scouts requested use of the beach at the Town Park to hold their Court of Honor on June 15 from 6:30 - 9:00pm with about 25 people in attendance. This request did not require a vote. It was approved.

2. The same Boy Scouts requested use of the Pavilion as shelter in case of rain during their Court of Honor.

*Kris Fazzone made a motion to accept the request for use of the pavilion by the Boy Scouts in case of rain on June 15 and to waive the fee. The motion was seconded by Denise DePalma and passed unanimously.*

3. There was an application for use of the pavilion for August 15 for 40 people from 2:00 – 8:00pm for a birthday party. The request did not require a vote and was approved. Mr. Wrenn will contact Alvin Tuck for the second page of the application which was missing.

**Director’s Report:**

John Wrenn made note of how the summer program enrollments were progressing after 2 days of registration:

Senior Camp – 19; Junior Camp – 18; not many swim lesson sign-ups yet; a few each for soccer, baseball and preschool tennis lessons. There will be some start-up expenses for the preschool tennis program, including small tennis racquets and nets.

Mr. Wrenn shared the details of the checking account, noting that there were only a few transactions in the account for April and May and the balance at the end of May was \$4,326.64.

Mr. Wrenn advised that two bands had been booked for the concert series so far: “Perfect Timing” on Sunday, July 19 and “Good Time Charlie’s” on

Saturday July 25. There was discussion about other possible bands that might be approached to play and the possibility of teaming with the JCC’s 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month evening concert series by offering those musical groups an afternoon engagement also.

John Wrenn detailed another email he had sent to the Board of Selectman requesting that the matter of money owed him from the 2014-15 fiscal year be settled before the start of a new fiscal year. Mr. Wrenn has not received a response to his inquiry. Mr. Wrenn noted that he had requested being put on the agenda for the May Board of Selectmen’s meeting and his request was denied.

Mr. Wrenn had been owed approximately \$1000 in 2013-14, due to a town hall clerical error. The debt was finally paid to him after about a year but the funds were taken from the 2014-15 budget so that again, as this fiscal year is near its close, Mr. Wrenn is owed a similar amount and the funds are not available from this year’s budget. There was a lengthy discussion, including measures that may need to be taken by Mr. Wrenn if the situation was not resolved before June 30, the end of the current fiscal year.

Fran Frattini had emailed the First Selectman concerning this matter at the end of April and has not received a response. The consensus of the Commission was that this was an unacceptable situation that had gone on too long. Stan Greenbaum suggested that the

chairman write another note to the Selectmen requesting resolution of this matter before July 1 so that it does not carry over into another fiscal year. It was noted that as it was a town hall bookkeeping error that caused this shortfall in Mr. Wrenn's pay and that town hall ought to be able to resolve it. It was suggested that members of the Commission attend the next Board of Selectmen meeting on June 25 at 7pm and state their opinions during the public comment portion of the meeting. There was another suggestion to get on the BOS agenda to discuss personnel matters.

*Stan Greenbaum made a motion to adjourn the June 8, 2015 Park and Recreation Regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Scott Berlinger and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.*

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***