

**NEW FAIRFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**4 Brush Hill Road**  
**New Fairfield, Connecticut 06812**  
**Telephone (203)312-5633 Fax (203)312-5636**

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**MINUTES**  
**Monday, October 15, 2018**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM**

Members Present: Sean Loughran (Chairman), Steve Burfeind, Mark Lamanna, Jim Ogden, Gary Remley and Chris Van Steen

Members Absent: Tom Edwards

Town official present: First Selectman Pat Del Monaco, Finance Director Ed Sbordone, Parks and Rec Director Linda Lull, Public Works Director Bucky Riehl and BOE Representative Greg Flanagan

Guests: Laura Consiglio and Elisa Beckett-Flores

**Call to Order-** Chairman Sean Loughran called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

**Public Comment-** Laura Consiglio from Youth Field Hockey spoke of the lack of fields and the fact that Youth Field Hockey often gets bumped from using the fields for practices if another team needs it. It was noted that there has only been one full week of practice since the start of school. The season for this league is from the start of school until the first week in November. The Parks and Rec Commission will look into this further.

BOE Representative Greg Flanagan asked about the status of the ordering of benches for the Girl's Softball fields and the ordering of clay for the fields. Public Works will order the clay for the spring. First Selectman Pat Del Monaco noted that she will look into the ordering of the benches.

**Approval of Minutes-**Mark Lamanna made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 2018 meeting as presented. Jim Ogden seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor**

The September meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum.

**Chairman's comments-** Sean Loughran spoke of the possible replacement of docks at the marina. He spoke of the possibility of having a special meeting to discuss this.

**Public Works update**

Bucky Riehl from Public Works spoke of the need to replace the railroad ties and add mulch at the playground. He spoke of the possibility of having railroad ties made out of composite materials. There was a discussion of the safety of the current railroad ties at the playground. Elisa Beckett-Flores spoke of playgrounds in surrounding towns that have a sidewalk area around the playground for strollers and walking.

There was a discussion of the process for getting repairs done at the timely basis and the authority for authorizing the payment of bills. Pat Del Monaco noted that she will look into this issue during the next budget season.

### **Dock Replacement**

First Selectman Pat Del Monaco spoke of the need to replace the 30 year old docks at the Town Marina. She noted that the useful life of docks is usually 20-25 years. She spoke of the possibility of using the town's expenditure surplus from the 2017-2018 budget for this purpose and will make a presentation to the Board of Finance at their October 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. There was a discussion of replacing which included replacing one arm at a time at a cost of approximately \$250,000 per arm. It was noted that the revenue on the docks is approximately \$190,000 per year. Currently there is approximately \$82,000 in the dock replacement fund and there is approximately \$68,000 in the facilities fund.

There was a discussion of the possibility of increasing the fee for the use of the marina and the possibility of putting the increase of revenue in the dock replacement fund.

Jim Ogden made a motion that the Parks and Rec Commission support the Board of Selectmen's plan to replace the docks at the marina. Mark Lamanna seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor**

### **Fields**

Steve Burfeind noted that there are drainage issues at Cashman field and noted that it needs more clay. There was a suggestion of resting Komlo field for a season. There was a discussion of who makes the decision for closing fields in bad weather. Bucky Riehl spoke of the machines used to clean the fields.

### **Waterfront**

There was a discussion of the Food Shack at the Town Beach and it was noted that it would be better to have Food Trucks at the parking lot instead of using the Food Shack. It was decided to not charge for a spot there but each truck must be licensed with the town.

Bucky Riehl spoke of a dying tree by the Town Beach. Pat Del Monaco will check with the State on this.

### **Carpeting for Pavilion**

The commission reviewed carpet samples for replacement at the pavilion and decided to order the color cinder #2048.

Mark Lamanna made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$2,650.00 to replace the carpeting at the pavilion near Rebel Turf. Jim Ogden seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor**

### **Director's update**

Linda Lull spoke of the following:

- Haunting on the Hollow had opening night on Saturday, Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> and there were a lot of positive comments. 140 tickets were sold. This is compared to approximately 75 per night last year. The Lions Club built a third haunted house. There was a discussion of how late the haunting should go and it was suggested that it be advertised until 10:30 pm. There is a promo this year from local restaurants that will give a percentage off to patrons that bring their picture with an "I survived" sign.
- The Turkey Run will be held on Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 200 runners have signed up so far.

- The Holiday Light Parade will be held on Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of Sunday, November 25<sup>th</sup>. There was a discussion of the best place to start the line up.
- The Great Christmas Light Fight judging will be on the first week in December.

**Adjournment**- Steve Burfeind made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 pm. Jim Ogden seconded the motion. **Vote: All in favor**