

NEW FAIRFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
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SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
Monday, March 30, 2015
6:00 p.m.
COMMUNITY ROOM AT 33 ROUTE 37

Members Present: Sean Loughran (Chairman), Steve Burfeind, Tom Edwards (arrived 6:10pm), Mike Ellenberg, Mike Evans, Mark Lamanna (arrived 6:10pm), Gary Remley, Fred Testor and Chris Van Steen

Members Absent: None

Town official present: Parks and Recreation Director Linda Lull and Director of Buildings and Grounds Bob Rzasa

Call to Order- Chairman Sean Loughran called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Public Comment- None

Approval of Minutes- Gary Remley made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 17, 2015 special meeting as presented. Fred Testor seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-1 (Motion approved- Chris Van Steen abstained- Mark Lamanna and Tom Edwards arrived late and did not vote on this item.)

Chairman Comments- Chairman Sean Loughran spoke of an email sent from Parks and Rec member Mark Lamanna regarding the docks.

Buildings and Grounds update

Buildings and Grounds Director Bob Rzasa noted that the docks at the marina will be fixed.

A claim has been submitted to the insurance company for damage done to the bathrooms at Rebel Field due to freezing pipes. There is a \$1,000 deductible for this.

Fred Testor noted that the electrician is finished with the heat at the bathrooms at Rebel Turf and can be turned on by Monday, April 6th. The water needs to be tested before it can be potable. The first game of the season is Girls Lacrosse on Tuesday, April 7th. There is a large cabinet with a lock that can store paper goods.

There was a discussion of the Town Barge that is used to put docks in and set buoys. There was a discussion of using a Jet Ski slip as the barge.

Director update

Kayak Day

Parks and Rec Director Linda Lull noted that Kayak Day will be held on Sunday, May 24th from 10am to 1pm. The Town Beach opens on Saturday, May 23rd. This will be a free event for New Fairfield residents and their guests. Ski Haus will supply kayaks and paddle boards as well as instructors. Food service will be available for a charge or people can bring their own food. There will be some kids activities designed to encourage kids to join Blue Raiders. New Fairfield will provide lifeguards. There was a discussion of whether or not to ask a radio station to cover the event. It was decided that the commission will play their own music. Mike Evans will provide speakers to play music.

Day Camp

Linda Lull noted that Day Camp will be held at the high school and middle school despite the potential parking lot project. Buildings and Grounds will help Parks and Rec with drop off spots and parking.

Outdoor cinema at Squantz Pond

To date, there is one sponsor for the summer and two rentals from Bethel. The revenue for rentals is \$1,500 each. The cost to run the movie is approximately \$1,000 each. There was a brief discussion of changing the cost to rent out the cinema. This will be discussed further at a future meeting. It was decided to run two movies this summer.

Men's Open Gym Soccer

Men's Open Gym Soccer was moved to the Middle School from Meeting House Hill School. The Middle School has no soccer nets or storage for these nets. Mike Evans suggested buying inexpensive fold up nets that don't require a lot of space.

Deposit for Boat slip waiting list

Linda Lull asked the commission if there should be a small deposit required to put a name on the waiting list for boat slips. It was decided that this wasn't necessary at this time.

Boat slip

Linda Lull noted a resident has two jet skis in a boat slip that would like to put whips there. The board noted that this was permissible but it was suggested that the Buildings and Grounds department install them so that they are installed correctly.

Subcommittee Reports

Beach House- Fred Testor noted that he has a meeting next week with First Light and then a meeting with the Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman regarding the Beach House. Sean Loughran noted that \$50,000 for the Beach House was cut from this year's budget and it is hopeful that a STEAP Grant will be obtained for this.

Box Lacrosse project

Fred Testor met with the committee regarding the Box lacrosse project. This project has been broken down to three projects. 1. Leveling and trimming an area. 2. Putting up walls. 3. Incasing the whole project.

Fundraising has been starting for this. It was noted that this project will become property of Parks and Rec and not Lacrosse. Plot plans must be received for this project and it must be reviewed by the Athletic Director at the high school. No permits will be received until it is proven that the funds are available. Fred Testor has reviewed this with the Town Sanitarian, Public Works, Zoning and the Building Department.

Next meeting- The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Rec commission for Monday, April 13th will be cancelled due to Spring Break. There will be a special meeting on Monday, April 20th at 7:00pm at the Beach House.

Adjournment- Mike Evans made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:50pm. Chris Van Steen seconded the motion.

Vote: 8-0-0 (Motion approved)