

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
TOWN OF NEW FAIRFIELD
4 BRUSH HILL ROAD
NEW FAIRFIELD, CT 06812
PHONE: 203-312-5633**

**Regular Meeting
Wednesday February 20, 2007**

**New Fairfield Town Hall Conference Room
7:00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Ray Lubus, Chairman, Mark Lamanna, Bill Tripp, Winn Brown, Bill O'Keeffe, Sean Loughran, Steve Merullo, Director Parks & Recreation, Lyn Sheaffer, P&R Secretary, John Hodge, First Selectman, Marty Morgan, NF Lacrosse.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairman Ray Lubus.

MOTION

Mr. Lamanna motioned to adopt the agenda, Mr. Brown seconded the motion.

Additions under call to order:

Field Turf Update
Summer Movies program
2007-2008 budget

Under Old Business

P&R Sub Committee with Board of Education fee schedule
302 Ball Pond Road/Baseball fields

Under New Business

Groovin in New Fairfield
Fishing Tournament
Golf Tournament
After School Program

Vote taken:

Mark Lamanna	Yes
Bill Tripp	Yes
Winn Brown	Yes
Sean Loughran	Yes
Bill O'Keeffe	Yes

Motioned carried unanimously.

Field Turf Update

Mr. Hodge reviewed the settlement. He reported they had settled on \$30,000 off the installation and increased the warranty to 10 y ears (non prorated) and insurance for 8 years. Mr. Lubus reported the Money had earned \$10,000 interest and he suggested the total of \$40,000 be put in the field turf replacement fund.

MOTION

Mr. O’Keeffe motioned to approve the settlement as proposed. Mr. Tripp seconded the motion.

Mr. Loughran expressed concern with putting the \$40,000 in the fund because the Board of Education will say they hit target and not put in their share.

Mr. Hodge felt the money had to be there in case repairs are needed because of a potential problem.

Vote taken:

Mark Lamanna	Yes
Bill Tripp	Yes
Winn Brown	Yes
Sean Loughran	Yes
Bill O’Keeffe	Yes

Motioned carried unanimously.

MOTION

Mr. Loughran motioned the \$30,000 + \$10,000 in interest be used for field replacement and repair. Mr.

O’Keeffe seconded the motion. Vote taken:

Mark Lamanna	Yes
Bill Tripp	Yes
Winn Brown	Yes
Sean Loughran	Yes
Bill O’Keeffe	Yes

Motioned carried unanimously.

2007 Movie Program

Mr. Merullo reviewed the Pepsi Donation. He also reported there was a private donation of \$5,000 that would be matched making the total \$20,000. He reported they were looking into purchasing equipment.

MOTION

Mr. O’Keeffe motioned to accept the Pepsi donation. Mr. Tripp seconded the motion. Vote taken:

Mark Lamanna	Yes
Bill Tripp	Yes
Winn Brown	Yes
Sean Loughran	Yes
Bill O’Keeffe	Yes

Motioned carried unanimously.

Dates proposed are June 15, July 13, August 3, and August 31.

Mr. Hodge explained the Squantz Fire Dept. are losing money in their parking lot and they would like to do the concessions for the movie. The Commission discussed.

MOTION

Mr. O’Keeffe motioned to change the 8/31 date to 8/24 and use the 31st as a rain date and to accept the other dates proposed. Mr. Lamanna seconded the motion. Vote taken:

Mark Lamanna	Yes
Bill Tripp	Yes
Winn Brown	Yes
Sean Loughran	Yes
Bill O’Keeffe	Yes

Motioned carried unanimously.

MOTION

Mr. Lamanna motioned to allow Squantz FD the opportunity to do the concessions at the movies. Mr. O’Keeffe seconded the motion.

Mr. Hodge explained he would make the suggestion anything above \$8,000 they will make a donation or split with P&R. Vote taken:

Mark Lamanna	Yes
Bill Tripp	Yes
Winn Brown	Yes
Sean Loughran	Yes
Bill O’Keeffe	Yes

Motioned carried unanimously.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

2007-2008 budget

Mr. Lubus reported he and Mr. Merullo had presented the proposed budget. The Board of Selectmen submitted budget to Finance without anything for the concession stand. Mr. Lubus asked the board if they felt it was worth the fight. The Commission discussed.

MOTION

Mr. O’Keeffe motioned to go to the Board of Finance and request they reinstate \$100,000 for bathrooms and concession facility. Mr. Lamanna seconded the motion. . Vote taken:

Mark Lamanna	Yes
Bill Tripp	Yes
Winn Brown	Yes
Sean Loughran	Yes
Bill O’Keeffe	Yes

Motioned carried unanimously.

3. REMARKS FROM THE PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

Mr. Merullo will report during each area.

4. OLD BUSINESS

Tennis Courts

Mr. Merullo reported work would start June 18th and take approx. 6 weeks. Derosa felt our budget could handle what we want.

P&R/BOE Sub Committee

Mr. Lubus reported on recommendations from the January meeting. The fee would remain at \$20 / town resident. Mr. Merullo distributed information on the meeting.

Cat 3: \$20/player for in house clubs.

Cat 4: must be a benefit to our community.

Cat 5: major events (out of town organizations)

Mr. Merullo explained there were concerns with the concession stand. The Commission discussed.

4... SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Field Use

Mr. Merullo distributed proposed Spring 2007 field use schedule He reported the practice football field is closed in the Spring. The Commission reviewed. The Commission discussed conflicts between Flash Track and Lacrosse. The Commission decided to let Mr. Merullo handle the schedule and revise as needed.

The Commission discussed Flash Track had never been charged usage fee. Mr. Lubus explained it was not a usage fee but a replacement fee. The Commission discussed not allowing walkers on when Flash Track had the facility.

Mr. Brown felt they shouldn't charge the fee for Spring because their sign-up was already done. Mr. Lubus felt the Commission would be willing to waive the fee for Spring if they would pay to put up the sign stating track regulations. Flash Track was willing to pay for the signs.

MOTION

Mr. Lamanna motioned to authorize \$20 fee be waived with a request for a donation of signage with track regulations to P&R. Mr. O'Keeffe seconded the motion. Vote taken:

Mark Lamanna	Yes
Bill Tripp	Yes
Winn Brown	Yes
Sean Loughran	Yes
Bill O'Keeffe	Yes

Motioned carried unanimously.

Mr. O'Keeffe left the meeting at 8:48.

MOTION

Mr. Tripp motioned to close the football practice field and adopt proposed field usage 2007 schedule subject to revisions to accommodate Flash Track and Lacrosse on the Stadium Field. Mr. Loughran seconded the motion. . Vote taken:

Mark Lamanna	Yes
Bill Tripp	Yes
Winn Brown	Yes
Sean Loughran	Yes
Bill O’Keeffe	Yes

Motioned carried unanimously.

b. Programming

Mr. Lubus expressed concern about the after school program moving forward. He felt there should be a meeting with Dr. Castagnola and see what facilities he is willing to commit. Mr. Lubus asked for authorization to meet with Dr. Castagnola and move forward.

MOTION

Mr. Tripp motioned to authorize Mr. Lubus to move forward with the After School Program and meet with Dr. Castagnola, Superintendent of Schools, NF. Mr. Loughran seconded the motion. Vote taken:

Mark Lamanna	Yes
Bill Tripp	Yes
Winn Brown	Yes
Sean Loughran	Yes
Bill O’Keeffe	Yes

Motioned carried unanimously.

c. Waterfront

Mr. Merullo reported the pipe had been fixed, tree maintenance was done and there would be more work done next month.

Mr. Merullo reported there is a fishing tournament this weekend using the Town Park as base with approx 200 fishermen. Fee is \$30, includes food, \$5 donation to charity and the balance is used for prize money.

Mr. Loughran expressed concern with liability and he felt the Valley Angler was making money and no fees were being charged. Mr. Lubus said anything below the 440 line we are not responsible.

d. Long Range Planning

Mr. Loughran reported on the Hidden Valley trails. \$7,500 for driveway and drainage. Mr. Merullo reported the area behind Rebel Turf will be leveled and seeded in the spring.

5... NEW BUSINESS

Groovin’ in New Fairfield

Mr. Lubus reported on the meeting with Groovin’. He had prepared a draft agreement, the Commission reviewed. He reported the sent it to Jim Malloy and waiting for a response. Mr. Hodge expressed concern they would not get reimbursement until agreement is made.

302 Ball Pond Road- Baseball fields.

Mr. Lubus reported this was a hot bed issue. Mr. Hodge felt the Commission should slow down. He reported parking was an issue. Mr. Lubus felt the Commission should prepare a resolution to bring to the Board of Selectmen to hose a town referendum to designate 302 Ball Pond Road for recreation fields. The Commission discussed. Mr. Loughran felt we should meet with Baseball.

MOTION

Mr. Lamanna motioned to draft a resolution to authorize Parks & Recreation to seek authority to designate 302 Ball Pond Road 6 acres for P&R for future development. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Vote taken:

Mark Lamanna	Yes
Bill Tripp	Yes
Winn Brown	Yes
Sean Loughran	Yes
Bill O’Keeffe	Yes

Motioned carried unanimously.

Golf Tournament

Mr. Merullo asked the Commission to sponsor a Golf Tournament at Silo Ridge. 1 day play, low gross winner.

MOTION

Mr. Brown motioned that Parks & Recreation sponsor a golf tournament for 2007. Mr. Tripp seconded the motion. Vote taken:

Mark Lamanna	Yes
Bill Tripp	Yes
Winn Brown	Yes
Sean Loughran	Yes
Bill O’Keeffe	Yes

Motioned carried unanimously.

Summer Help

Mr. Merullo distributed & reviewed positions being hired for summer help.

Boat Slips

Mr. Merullo reported he was underway with making phone calls. He will update the Commission next month.

MOTION

Mr. Lamanna motioned to adjourn. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Vote taken:

Mark Lamanna	Yes
Bill Tripp	Yes
Winn Brown	Yes
Sean Loughran	Yes
Bill O’Keeffe	Yes

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Lyn Sheaffer, Secretary Parks & Recreation Commission