

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
TOWN OF NEW FAIRFIELD
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MINUTES

**Regular Meeting
Wednesday, September 10, 2008**

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

PRESENT:

Sean Loughran (Chairman) , Steve Burfeind, Bill O'Keeffe, Bill Tripp, Melissa Fidanza, Fred Testor and Steve Merullo (Director Parks & Recreation)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m. by Chairman Sean Loughran.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe Gerufi gave a presentation related to a request to find space for a dog park in New Fairfield. After reviewing all the options, it was agreed that the best location would be on top of the HS Septic. This must be approved by Tim Simpkins. The second option would be in front of the High School on the town owned property on Gillotti Road. It was suggested it would be best if it was closer to Gillotti Road. A town meeting would be required to approve such a park.

CHAIRMAN COMMENTS

Mr. Loughran informed the commission that we have one new member, Tom Edwards and the Selectmen are supposed to appoint another new member, Chris Van Steen at their next meeting.

Mr. Loughran asked the Commission to start thinking about the Long Range Plan. He explained that the New Fairfield Foundation may have a grant available for the bathrooms at the town park. There was discussion related to the various sub committees. The Programs Committee still needs members.

The Commission discussed bathroom construction. The Commission decided to apply for the grant first and then proceed forward.

3. DIRECTOR UPDATE

Mr. Merullo reported that the playground will be installed at the Castle Town Park this fall. The dugouts at Cashman and Memorial will also be built this fall.

Mr. Merullo stated that he is getting prices for the lights at the boat docks. He is trying to ensure that the lights are not pointed at Candlewood Isle. We will also have to change the electrical service on the pole as it is old, not grounded and shorts out the dock gate.

The work at the area behind Rebel Turf is almost complete. However, the area cannot be used until we get a fence installed.

The swim docks will be taken out of the lake soon. Some of the boat docks need work. This will be done this winter. Mr. Merullo will give us an update on the summer programs at our next meeting.

3. SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS

Waterfront:

There is still a problem with run off at Ball Pond. The commission will discuss what to do with that site next year .

It was suggested to allow jet skis at the dock spaces that we are not renting because they are too small for regular boats. We need to obtain prices from other marinas in order to determine a potential price schedule for next year.

Programming:

The agreements with the vendors providing the programs is still an issue. The 60/40 % split of profits procedure is not being applied consistently by the staff in the Park and Recreation office.

Mr. Loughran requested that the Commission members be available for the Turkey Run on Nov 23rd and the Tree Lighting on Nov 30th.

Kelly Ferris, the new Park and Recreation Program Director will try to attend our next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Sean Loughran, Parks & Recreation Commission