

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, May 11, 2009
7:00 p.m.

TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM

PRESENT:

Sean Loughran (Chairman), Steve Burfeind, Fred Testor, Melissa Fidanza, Chris Van Steen, Mark Lamanna, Steve Merullo (Parks & Recreation Director), Denise Coccozza (Secretary), First Selectman John Hodge

1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Sean Loughran.

2. Public Comment

Joe Garufi requested an update regarding the Dog Park's status as a Parks & Recreation program. The contract hasn't yet been voted on. The members all agreed to read the contract and vote on it at the next regular meeting in June. The list of signs containing the park rules and regulations will also need to be approved at the next meeting. Donations to the Dog Park will remain in the hands of the Dog Fund as opposed to filtering through the Parks & Recreation office.

3. Approval of Minutes April 6th

Steve Burfeind made a motion to approve the April 6th minutes. Mark Lamanna seconded.

Vote taken:

Steve Burfeind	Yes
Fred Testor	Yes
Melissa Fidanza	Yes
Chris Van Steen	Yes
Mark Lamanna	Yes

Motion Carried.

4. Chairman Comments

Chairman Sean Loughran noted that the bathroom project scenarios and funding should be discussed at this meeting. He also noted that terms are up in June for 3 members (Chris Van Steen, Bill Tripp, Sean Loughran).

5. Director Update

- a). Steve Merullo reported that the water level took longer than expected to rise this year which delayed the timing of putting the boats in the water. He stated that all slips are now filled.
- b). The new playground will begin installation on May 18th. High school seniors will be completing the work for credit as a project and will take approximately one month to complete.
- c). Building permits were obtained for the dugouts and Rick Salem will be coordinating the volunteers to set up the dugouts over the course of 2 weekends.
- d). Summer camp is currently scheduled to run for 5 weeks at the high school. Steve is in the process of finalizing plans which would allow for 2 additional weeks of summer camp in August. The location would be a combination of the Consolidated fields/playgrounds and St. Edward's church (basketball courts and recreational hall).

6. Subcommittee Reports

- a). Fields – Steve Burfeind said that the lower Rebel field is still not officially available for use. Overall field use fees are scheduled to increase in July. The reduced fees recommended for Flash Track were discussed. Follow-up meetings with the field fees subcommittee will need to take place to confirm the Flash Track fees.
- b). Waterfront
 - Mark Lamanna requested an additional \$300 for 2 more cameras at the marina. The purpose is to have a better view of the gate area. He has a contact who will install the cameras for free. Mark made a motion to approve the additional \$300 for 2 cameras. Chris Van Steen seconded the motion.

Vote taken:

Steve Burfeind	Yes
Fred Testor	Yes
Melissa Fidanza	Yes
Chris Van Steen	Yes
Mark Lamanna	Yes

Motion Carried.

- Mark also said a sign will be posted down by the docks with emergency phone numbers. He also recommended that additional lighting be added to the upper lot. Steve Merullo will follow up.
- Also discussed was the need of repairs to the boat launch. Steve stated that plans are in the works for the repairs.
- Lighting at the docks continues to be an issue as it is invasive to some of the homes on Candlewood Isle. One of the lights needs to move. Steve Merullo will obtain pricing. Fred Testor made a motion to give Steve permission to obtain pricing, not to exceed

\$2500, and install the new light and pole as soon as possible. Mark Lamanna seconded the motion.

Vote taken:

Steve Burfeind	Yes
Fred Testor	Yes
Melissa Fianza	Yes
Chris Van Steen	Yes
Mark Lamanna	Yes

Motion Carried.

- Mark Lamanna brought up the topic of offering jet skis spots on the inside of the marina where boats wouldn't fit. Additional equipment would be needed to protect the jet skis and weeds may be an issue. Mark will look into pricing at other marinas for jet skis to come up with a reasonable fee structure.
- Steve Merullo reported that responses to the concession stand bid are due on 5/18.

c). Bathroom project – Steve Merullo obtained pricing on a “Plan B” scenario utilizing local contractors to build the bathrooms. Pricing came in around the \$180,000 range for a structure with 6 stalls, and no press box or vending (which could be added later). Various scenarios were discussed and it was determined that the best immediate approach would be to secure a pre-fabricated unit. The cost would be in the \$100,000 range and the unit could be moved or built upon in the future if more funds become available. The plan will be presented to the New Fairfield Community Foundation in pursuit of a grant. A meeting will be scheduled by the Selectman's office for the week of 5/18 with the Parks & Recreation Commission and other interested clubs to determine whether letters of commitment will be submitted to the Community Foundation. Steve Burfeind and Fred Testor will provide club contact information to the Selectman's office to set up the meeting.

7. Adjournment

Mark Lamanna made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve Burfeind seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.