

**Wallingford Parks & Recreation Department
Parks & Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes February 10, 2012**

Recreation Commission Members Present:

Dave Gelo, Mike Savenelli, Roz Gallagher, Phylis Murray, Jason Michael

Recreation Department Staff Present:

John Gawlak CPRP Director Parks & Recreation,

Recording Secretary:

Joanne Vass

Opening Remarks:

Dave Gelo called the meeting to order @ 8:10 AM.

Minutes:

Mike Savenelli made a motion to accept the January meeting minutes. It was seconded by Phylis Murray.

Old Business:

Signage: Signs for Harrison Park, Carini, and Coyle Fields are on order. Three quotes were obtained. The bid was awarded to Tim Keogh. Dave asked for a copy of the purchase order to be sure all is worded correctly. FYI: Spelling and info was verified-Carini Field is on the left (Woodhouse 1) and Coyle field is on the right (Field 2)

Public Works: meeting with Steve Palermo went very well. DPW worked very promptly on our requests. Plans are to replace old benches at parks that they recently removed. Steve is staying in constant contact with John re: status of concerns. A discussion ensued re: formulating a supply list and new regulations for playground ground cover under playgrounds. John will keep commission updated.

Hungarian recognition request at Harrison: After meeting with the Mayor, the Commission is recommending the formation of a Monument Garden with standard 18" x 10" plaques for each group. Plaques should be purchased from one vendor for uniformity-text and placement subject to approval by Rec Commission and Town Council. Mike Savenelli will create & Email a draft summary to other commissioners by next meeting. Roz Gallagher will research plaques in center of town. Commission will revisit topic at next meeting.

Parks & Recreation Foundation: reports from Ms. Weber, Mike Savenelli. Looking for a separate foundation. Brief discussion ensued. Need follow up meeting with Jim Bowes (John will try to schedule after 3:00PM). Mike will contact Betsy (?) re: status.

Permits: Dave Gelo contacted 8 other towns re: use of public parks-every one required permits (permit process in place). A lengthy discussion ensued re: permit abuse. It was suggested to invite Community Police officer to next ordinance committee meeting.

Director's Notes:

West Side Field: Hoping to get Guard Rail this spring.

Wallingford Little League scoreboard at Community Lake: waiting for trenching.

GLLSB: waiting for design from them for batting cage.

Pragemann Park: Need higher backstop (will be installed).

Viet Nam Vets Park: John Thompson is working with State of CT – needs estimates from state (put in his budget?)

Open Space Users Meeting: will take place Mon. Feb 27 @ 5:30PM at the Rec. Dept.

Spring Brochure: Has arrived in homes. Kudos to Ken Michaels for the great new format!

Softball Registration: Will take place Friday Feb. 17. New teams may register after 4:35PM.

Pool Concessions : John will put specs out for bid this year.

Budget Preparation: Rec. Dept. in early stages- goal is no increased spending. Will meet with Mayor March 13.

Bennett Painters currently sprucing up building-hallways and many classrooms done. Will be finished on Monday.

Inclusion Specialist- received Kudos recently from someone at Board of Ed. Emily Swindelled has also suggested that we recognize efforts of 2 high school students donating over 40 hours of time to Dance Power program.

There will be a Pre School Showcase at the Library in March.

John will meet with Dr. Menzo next week re: school usage for summer playgrounds. Loss of use of many schools may seriously impact our summer programs this year.

Custodial Bid: Purchasing asked that we review because of need changes, photocopies of badges. Bid delayed one week. John and Jim Sayre will do walk-thru with interested parties.

Michelle Bjorkman is currently working on summer staffing and scheduling summer concerts and other events. We are also moving in another direction for upcoming winter events with WCI (Holiday Stroll, etc.)

SCOW: Maria Harlow – concern over non-Hispanic use of area as skate park area. Board of Youth (YSS)- John will speak at their next meeting re: interest in developing skate park @ Garden Rd. He will keep Commission informed as to status.

Next Meeting:

The next Recreation Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday March 14, 2012 @ 8:00AM at the Recreation Dept. Dave will E-mail all commissioners as a reminder of next meeting date.

Adjournment:

Dave Gelo made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Phylis Murray seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:05AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Vass, recording secretary