

**Wallingford Parks & Recreation Department
Parks & Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes February 16, 2011**

Recreation Commission Members Present:

Dave Gelo Vice Chairman, Mike Savenelli, Phylis Murray, Roz Gallagher

Recreation Department Staff Present:

John Gawlak CPRP Director Parks & Recreation,

Recording Secretary:

Joanne Vass

Opening Remarks:

Meeting was called to order @ 8:02a.m.

Minutes:

A motion was made by Roz Gallagher to accept last December minutes seconded by Dave Gelo.

Old Business:

Ordinances for signage: Roz had some questions on the subject, as she was not able to attend the January meeting. A discussion ensued. It was decided to emphasize the need for clarification for the purposes of monitoring, management and control. Dave has forwarded information to Councilman Robert Parisi who will send the information to the Ordinance Committee. Hopefully it will be presented at the March 15 meeting (3rd Tuesday of the Month). Dave will keep the Commission posted.

Commission By-Laws: Mike Savenelli discussed adding information regarding Resignation of An Officer, time limits on Commission Meetings, special meetings and meeting attendance. Mike will follow up and revise.

Dave reiterated he would like to record the terms and expiration dates of all current commissioners. John will get the official dates from Town Hall and bring information to the next meeting.

Advertising Signs: Mike contacted the Southington Little League regarding their use of signage for advertising. They charge \$400 the first year for a 40 X 72 sign which is wired to the fencing. (Cost of the sign is \$100). Renewal each year is \$250. The Town brings in approximately \$3,000 per year from this revenue source. A discussion ensued regarding possible issues that might also arise. It was decided to run the idea by the Ordinance Committee.

Dave has spoken to Linda Mercuri our Chairperson who is currently on leave of absence. She feels that she needs more time with personal issues. It was suggested that she stay on as a member for the remainder of her term, but that a new Chairman be elected. Dave will call Linda regarding such. The final outcome will be discussed at the next meeting.

Recreation Meetings were addressed. It was decided to permanently hold the commission meetings on the second Wednesday of the month at 8:00am.

New Business:

Fireworks: The fireworks are tentatively scheduled for July 2 this year. TELSTAR (our previous vendor) was bought out by ATLAS. Some of the employees have gone to PYROTECH). A meeting will be held with all pertinent town departments to figure out expenses for fundraising (deadline is May 23).

Holiday for Giving: John stated that the Giving Committee was extremely happy to have been using the Park & Rec for their event last year. They are planning on coming back this year.

Skateboard Park: A new Skateboard Park has been built in Middlefield at a cost of \$65,000. John displayed a photo. The interested group wants to meet with John and the concrete company. They went to

check out the new park. John stated that a similar park built here would also have need modifications for BMX Bikes (Garden Road property).

Wallingford Baseball Alliance: They have requested a meeting with the commission to do a power point presentation explaining their purpose and goals. The commission will hold a special meeting on March 4 at 8:00am to view the presentation. John will inform the Baseball Alliance of the date.

Photo ID's for Commission Members: Mike suggested that each member have a photo ID (taken at the Rec Dept) as a means of identifying themselves if they need to deal with any issue pertaining to the Dept.

Director's Notes: None submitted this month, as time did not permit. (Due to the Department's displacement as a result of Roof issues).

Roof Issues: John discussed the department's displacement due to recent roof issues. He praised the staff for their work efforts during the interim

Irrigation System: The irrigation system at Pragemann will be completed by the 2nd week in April.

Ropes Course: A Connecticut Company is signing off on the project next week. They actually came in under budget – extra monies will be used for training of facilitators. Roz asked that we notify the Rotary Club in advance when the money is needed for the project.

Disk Golf: Eight of the nine holes are complete at this time. An April Grand Opening Event will be held after the ninth hole is complete.

Annual Report: John will discuss at the March meeting.

New projects: The commission members stated that they were interested in looking into new projects and ideas for community improvements. The topic will be discussed in detail at future meetings.

Next Meeting:

The next Recreation Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday March 9 @ 8:00AM at the Recreation Dept.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned by Dave Gelo at 9:40 am

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Vass, recording secretary