

Wallingford Parks and Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes April 15, 2010

Recreation Commission Members Present:

Roz Gallagher, Dave Gelo, Linda Mercuri, Phylis Murray, Michael Savinelli Sr.

Recreation Department Staff Present:

Superintendent of Programs, Michelle Bjorkman

Recording Secretary: Joanne Vass

Opening Remarks:

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

Minutes:

Linda Mercuri made a motion to approve the March meeting notes as is. It was seconded by Phylis Murray.

Old/Current Business:

Michelle Bjorkman passed out copies of the current Director's Report and various documents (see attached copies).

Director's Report: John Gawlak (refer to copy attached) additional comments:

1. Budget FY10-11: Michelle mentioned that the Mayor and the Comptroller were both pleased with our proposed budget expenses. She did mention a few needed items, such as the Community Pool Lap Lane and the Gym Curtain with worn out straps.
2. New Haven Parks and Recreation: Met with John Gawlak 2 weeks ago to gather ideas from our administration and programs. John was pleased to receive a formal Thank You for his efforts.
3. Recreation Center Painting: Michelle stated that the painting and repair of the main corridors and exercise rooms was completed two weeks ago.
4. Health Fair: 300 mini backpacks with our logo will be distributed and our Health and Fitness instructors will demonstrate various classes.
5. Fireworks: No questions were raised at the Public Hearing this week. TELSTAR has the date locked in for us temporarily. We will know on April 26 if the fireworks will be running or not (currently in holding pattern).
6. Disc Golf: Linda stated that they are waiting to meet with Mayor Dickinson. Jason Michael has a sponsor lined up for each hole. Linda said that Mr. Michael is willing to build the golf park himself. The city ordinance does not allow signage at each hole.
7. Bertini Park: On May 19, the Rotary Club will discuss the funding of the proposed Low Ropes course. It will probably be deferred to the special projects committee of the Wallingford Foundation.
8. Skate Park: The plans call for a multi purpose park (BMX Bikes, etc.) and supervision will be mandated.
9. Ice Cream Vendor Bid: Bids will be divided by Parks, playground areas and Twilight Tunes. Vending must be located based on Recreation Dept. requests. It was suggested that we do background checks on the vendors, especially the ones vending at the playgrounds. Michelle will check on the status of doing so.
10. Car Top Boat Launch: Will allow access into the Quinnipiac River for Kayaks, and canoes. The project will be completely funded by the State of CT. Dave Gelo suggested defogging the mosquitos for the reunion event on Fireworks Island on May 30.
11. Commission Member replacement: Welcome to our new Recreation Commissioner, Mr. Michael Savinelli Sr.
12. Harrison Park Sign: Dave Gelo mentioned that the old sign is wearing out. A discussion ensued regarding larger signage with simplified wording, and leaving room on the bottom for future rededications. Dave Gelo and Roz Gallagher will gather information regarding prices.

New Business:

The Rec Commission members requested that the Director's Report be Emailed to them in advance of the monthly meetings.

Recreation office staff: Michelle Bjorkman mentioned that Liz Chubet has been hired as the new 19 hour front office position. Welcome Liz!

Next Meeting:

The next Recreation Commission meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held on Wednesday, May 12, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. at the Recreation Department, 6 Fairfield Blvd., Wallingford, CT.

Motion to Adjourn:

A motion to adjourn was made by Linda Mercuri and seconded by Dave Gelo. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Vass, recording secretary