

**Wallingford Parks & Recreation Department
Parks & Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes May 10, 2013**

Recreation Commission Members Present:

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

Recreation Department Staff Present:

John Gawlak CPRP Director Parks & Recreation

Recording Secretary: Joanne Vass

Attending Guests: Jeanine Upright and Jon Walworth, Gaylord Representatives,
Paul Sandberg, Community Gardener

Opening Remarks:

Dave Gelo called the meeting to order @ 8:00 AM.

Minutes:

Dave asked for a motion to accept the April meeting minutes. Mike Savenelli made the motion, which was seconded by Phylis Murray.

New business:

Dave Gelo introduced Jeanine Upright from Gaylord Hospital. She explained that they are in the process of selling undeveloped land to generate cash flow (\$10,000,000) for replacement of outdated equipment, updating infrastructure where needed and making any improvements needed as a reaction to healthcare reform in the future. Girls Softball will have use of fields for 2 more years from closing date of sale to a national developer (after sale through 2016 season). John discussed scheduling adjustments that would need to be made. He also discussed other pros and cons. Pros: upcoming plan to design and build a concession stand at Pragemann, fields already have irrigation and lighting. Cons: negative impact on travel programs-may be displaced, but may be able to use school fields if necessary improvement work is completed on them.

John introduced Paul Sandberg, a Community Gardener who wanted to find out the status of the Gardens. He spoke of interest in improvement and previously submitted some helpful suggestions to improve the appearance of the area, as well as some safety ideas. Jim Sayre will be providing oversight for better clean up this fall and next spring as well as enforcing current rules from someone other than a gardener. The Commission agreed that clean up and uniformity is necessary. John will schedule a mandatory meeting of gardeners.

Old Business:

Wallace Park: Tuesday, May 14, the budget will be adopted- any changes will be discussed. DPW will finish pouring pads for the 6 benches by next week. (Plus pad for Doolittle bench honoring Don Dietle). Mike Savenelli rewrote the definition of a recognized organization. The commission unanimously approved the changes. Mike will forward to the Town Council for review. Dave asked for a definition of the word "civic", which John looked up. Need to finalize the type of plaques to be used. Commissioners will set up a separate meeting to discuss. Project discussion will occur next meeting to create timeline and bids for fencing and irrigation.

Vets Park: See above for discussion of Community Gardens.

Dog Park: Mike has some information from District of Columbia re: their rules and regulations that he will share with the WDLA group of Wallingford. A lengthy discussion was held including ADA concerns of various sights. Top picks of the Commission for locations are Garden Road and Fresh Meadow (Galko property). John will get Engineering to draw plan on map re: parking @ Garden Road and Harrison Park.

A Lengthy discussion of changes @ Doolittle Park took place, mainly replacement of vandalized equipment.

Director's Notes: (See attached submittal)

1. Vets Parking: 3 weeks of police coverage provided by Youth leagues has been working well. A lengthy discussion took place- will contact state representatives to see if DPH application process can be accelerated if necessary.
5. Legacy Gardens: It was suggested to use masonry paint on old pillars to encapsulate old paint.
6. Management software: New software is being implemented slowly and will be used starting this Fall. First draft of Fall Brochure info due to printer by July 1.
8. Vets Park: Padlocks are on gates to softball fields with combination locks. Jim will remove by cutting off.
9. Jim has posted all the no smoking signs at the various fields. We will need to purchase a few more and post at Vets Park and other areas where people are still smoking out of designated areas.
12. Still waiting for new open space subgroups to be formed, such as Meadow Group, etc.
13. John met with Peter Pfau, Lions Club President re: Pragemann Park signage. Mr. Pfau has historical data. Possible proposed modern sign with history or restore old sign. Will have meeting over the summer to discuss.
15. Community- walk thru yesterday with Michelle & DPW. Pool to be drained next week.
18. Tyler Mill Steward: Diane Saunders will submit periodic updates to Recreation Dept. Short discussion of farm leases ensued.
26. Short discussion of proposed changes in Community Pool Passes this year, namely photo id's and more detailed proof of residency. Info to be mailed to residents shortly.

Discussed WLL complaint in length.

Next Meeting:

The next Recreation Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 12, 2013 @ 8:00AM at the Recreation Dept. Dave will E-mail all commissioners as a reminder of next meeting date. He will also Fax or E-mail copy of agenda to Town Clerk's office, Town Council Office and Commission Secretary directly.

Adjournment:

Dave Gelo made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mike Savenelli. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanne Vass, Recording Secretary