

Park and Recreation Commission
Minutes of the Meeting
September 13th, 2017

Meeting called to order: 7:35 pm.

Commissioners in Attendance: George Caye, Al Larson, Dave Romejko, Dan Rezende, Mike Kelly, Bill Nowak, Katie Graham, Renee Powell, Craig Zimmerman

Also in Attendance: Ray Favreau, Matt Riley

Al Welcomed Renee Powell to the meeting as a new member of PARC

Approval of Minutes: Motion made and seconded to approve the May minutes. Passed unanimously.

Public Input: None

NEW OFFICERS: Motions were made and seconded for the following members who were then voted on and passed unanimously. Congratulations.

Chair: Al Larson

Vice Chair: Craig Zimmerman

Secretary: George Caye

Al thanked everyone and had a few comments. He knows it has been tough lately with getting a quorum to the meeting and will address it tonight. He would like to get our Master Plan completed by the end of this year. Since we are short on funds for any projects we should be able to get this project completed.

Master Plan Mapping: Ray handed out a draft report from another town on how to evaluate park properties using bullet points. This technique would work for all our evaluations of parks and facilities. Members used SWLL Complex as an example

South Windsor Little League Complex

Strengths

- **New Storage/Concession Building**
- **Covered Dugouts**
- **New Softball Field**
- **New Scoreboards**
- **Indoor Hitting Building**
- **Lit Pepin Field**

Weaknesses

- **Inadequate Parking**
- **No Netting for Foul Balls**
- **Need for a full 50/70 Field**
- **Not all fields ADA Accessible**

Enhancements

- **Turf Infield for Practice and TBall**
- **More Parking**

- **Netting near woods**
- **New Lights for Pepin**
- **50/70 Field**
- **Ice Rink for Pepin in the Winter**

PARC can do this for all of the town's inventory. This will make it easier for residents and Town Council to see where there are needs. Ray will send a list of all parks and facilities and is asking members to prepare for the next meeting by listing all pluses minuses and needs for parks we are familiar with in town. He will also send the article we used from the other town as a guide.

By using this method we will need to change the draft outline of Part 1 and Part 2. Part 1 e should be moved into the introduction of the Plan and the other parts merged or eliminated.

Report of Council Liaison: Matt informed the group that the Collins Sledding Hill has been purchased by the town. He did not have the final cost. This Saturday is the Festival of Lights from 5-9 and the fireworks will be launched from the hill. The town still has no idea on the funding from the state. SW was supposed to get 13 million and right now it may be ZERO. This will impact the town in some way if the state doesn't get a budget by October 1.

OSTF: Collins property closed last week

Andy Paterna and Roy Normen are trying to get a brochure made discussing other options for land preservation. Also working on getting info to the residents; TC presentation, newspaper articles and possibly an article in the Parks and Rec. Magazine.

Heritage Day was cancelled due to no available space for the event.

Report of the B of E Liaison: Craig said the old Orchard Hill School is closed so the town didn't get any extra gym space. The New OH School gym has NO space for spectators to watch a game. May be an issue for Rec. Basketball. The new schools are 18 months from groundbreaking but B of E is meeting to discuss plans now. They will try and get a larger gym in the new PE school

Report of Parks and Rec. Director: Ray stated that the PARC balance is \$45867.66. He has had to use other funds to pay for PARC projects. He is asking us to ok taking money out of our balance to pay for the work. There were 4 projects totaling \$13,879.91. A motion was made by George and seconded by Dave to use \$13,879.91 from our ~\$45000 to pay for the projects. Voted on and passed unanimously.

Fairgrounds at Rye St. Park: The Wapping fair was held last weekend at Rye St Park and was a success. The area sustained some damage but the Fair had a bond to cover the repair costs.

Tennis Courts at TE and Wapping were repaired and the Basketball Court at Rye Street was repaired and resurfaced. All are in good shape.

Ellsworth Gym Floor will be resurfaced this fall with permanent Pickle Ball lines placed on the floor.

The Rec Dept is still moving out of the Community Center to the Old Wapping School. Their big need now is to redo the existing Cafeteria so it can be rented. Ray will try and get the next PARC meeting at the Rec Building. He also reported that the entire building will need to have AC for future classes.

It was 9:28 and Al asked for an extension to the meeting. A motion was made and seconded to extend the meeting by no more than 15 minutes to discuss item 10 on membership. Voted and passed unan.

Commission Member Size: This has been discussed at previous meeting but has never been finalized due to quorum issues at the last few meetings. Dan Van Horn has resigned from PARC. This leaves us with 11 members (10 Full and 2 Alt.). Ray would like to see the membership reduced to 7 Full and 4 alternates. Dave made a motion that was seconded to have PARC consist of 7 Full time members and 4 Alternate members. This will allow us to have a better chance for a quorum (5) for meetings. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously. Ray will talk to the Clerk of the TC to get it as an agenda item at one of their meetings. This has to be discussed and voted on by the SW Town Council.

Mike Kelly had a quick comment before we adjourned. He asked if there was any way to start putting pictures of the future SW Rec. Center in the Parks and Rec magazine. Then put highlights in future magazines so we can get the residents to be ready for a new Rec Center when it comes to a referendum.

Meeting adjourned 9:40 pm

Next Meeting: 7:30pm October 11th, 2017

Respectfully Submitted

George S. Caye