

Park and Recreation Commission
Minutes of the Meeting
January 13th, 2016

Meeting called to order: 7:40 pm.

Commissioners in Attendance: George Caye, Dave Romejko, Rob O'Connor, Dan Rezende, Bill Nowak, Mike Kelly, Al Larson, Cindy Beaulieu

Also in Attendance: Ray Favreau, John Caldwell, and Andy Paterna

Al welcomed Cindy Beaulieu as a new member to PARC

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

Public Input: None

Special Reports: Andy Paterna presented a Farmland Preservation Proposal that he would like the backing of PARC. The area in question is along Main St. in town. He is calling it the Main St. Greenway. Town residents have overwhelmingly approved funds for the preservation of open space and farmland. This proposal would have the town purchase the development rights of farmland along Main Street. There are a few families interested in the proposal. Andy would like the backing of PARC and other town groups to back the idea. We will support the proposal with a motion when it is needed.

Report of Council Liaison: None. We do not have a Council Liaison at this time

OSTF: None

Report of the B of E Liaison: None

Report of Parks and Rec. Director: Wapping School: Ray is working on an application for a \$500,000 STEAP grant for improvements to the school to be used for recreation. This grant can only be used for recreational purposes. The school would need more work to make it a true "Recreation Center". There are still other groups in town that would like to have some space in the school.

Rye Street Park: Parks Crew has designed and installed a two mile mountain bike trail in the park between the ball fields and the train tracks. The trail is 90% complete and only needs another connecting bridge to finish the project.

Jones Property: The house will be demolished soon.

VMP: Proceeds from the South Windsor Rotary Auction on 4/2/2016 will go design and construction of the "Rotary Pavilion II" at VMP. They are looking for some matching of funds from the town to complete this project. \$170,000 will come from Rotary and it will cost up to \$170,000 to bring all the utilities to the Pavilion. A motion was made by Mike and seconded by Bill to put a second line item in the Capitol Projects for PARC for \$170,000 for utilities to the Rotary Pavilion II at VMP. Voted on and passed unanimously.

Wapping Park: The town is meeting with DEEP to possibly move the Grasshopper Sparrow mitigation plan from Wapping Park to another area in town. There is a similar space in the Mannarino subdivision that could possibly be an alternative site.

Barton Property: Phase I should be completed this month with the rough clearing of the property. Phase II and III will go out to bid this winter. This will be for construction of the gravel drive around the clearing and the final grading and seeding of the area.

Ray is looking at placing a plastic tile over some of the TE Tennis Courts. The product is placed over the existing material and would be more cost effective.

Priest Property: The SWAAN Committee received a \$24,000 grant to evaluate the property and structures and look at future uses for the Farm.

Mike Kelly asked if there was a way to show people that the Town Council has failed to fund any PARC projects in town. It was suggested that we put together a brief statement to be read at town council meetings stating this FACT.

SWWWW: The group is working with Eversource. They are doing maintenance on the power lines that go through town. The group is trying to have Eversource leave as much of the temporary roads in place when they are done to help SWWWW create a cross town trail under the existing lines. They are also completing their application for Silver Status from the American League of Bicyclists.

January 22 is the next full moon walk at the Rotary Pavilion in Nevers Park at 7 pm.

SW Food Alliance: None

Meeting adjourned 10:20 pm

Next Meeting: 7:30pm February 10th, 2016

Respectfully Submitted

George S. Caye