

Park and Recreation Commission
Minutes of the Meeting
May 11th 2016

Meeting called to order: 7:35 pm.

Commissioners in Attendance: George Caye, Cindy Beaulieu, Rob O'Connor, Bill Nowak, Dan Rezende, Al Larson, Dan Van Horn,

Also in Attendance: Ray Favreau, John Caldwell, Craig Zimmerman, Matt Riley, Bob Dickenson,

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

Public Input: None

Report of Council Liaison: The Town Council needs to have a budget in place by May 20th.

OSTF: Task Force decided that there was no value to purchase Development Rights to the Koboski Property and a motion was made to ask for an easement to the Scantic River on Ferry Lane.

Report of the B of E Liaison: None

Report of Parks and Rec. Director: Ryan Kane with the Rec. Dept. for more than 14 years is leaving this month to take a new position in Concord MA. Congratulation to Ryan and Good Luck. Kerry Apt will be promoted to Ryan's position and her position will be posted. There will be a luncheon for Ryan next Thursday May 19th at Rotary Pavilion from 12-1 if anyone is interested in attending. A motion was made by Rob to get a \$250 give card at a restaurant near Sturbridge MA for Ryan. Motion was seconded and voted on and passed unanimously.

Barton Property: Berm is complete and will be seeded. Bids will be going out to do final grading and seeding of the remainder of the property.

SW Softball Field: Dedication ceremony was April 22nd. All of the remaining items on the punch list were complete.

VMP: Parks crew is getting the facility ready for the May 28th opening day. They are also working on the Veterans Wall for a dedication ceremony Memorial Day Weekend. Craig asked that we write a letter to Capitol Projects Committee and Town Council asking that the Rotary Pavilion two and the engineering project at Wapping School remain on the Capitol Projects lists for the 2016/17 budget. Rotary has raised \$160,000 for the new pavilion. Ray will draft a letter and Al will speak at the Town Council Meeting this Monday about these projects.

High Tunnels: These are Greenhouses that go right into the ground and use the dirt underneath for planting. Andy Paterna received grant money to purchase the tunnels but John Caldwell was unable to put them up because they are rated at 90 MPH for wind and they need to be 100. Engineered adjustments have been made requiring 52 42"x12" concrete footings. Installation is now scheduled for early June.

PARC Master Plan: Al would like the new plan to be shorter and would like us to set a time to complete. We have all the data from the public and if we delay that information would be

outdated. He would like to see it completed within a year. Ray commented that there is a lot of work to do to complete the plan. He has piles of data and work done by him and Rec staff that needs to be gone through.

Rob made a motion that was seconded to; Hire a summer intern at the present rate of \$400 a week to work on the new PARC Master Plan as directed by Ray and not to exceed \$4000. This money would come from our PARC Budget money. Some would be from this fiscal year and the rest would be from the 2016/17 year. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

SWWWW: Group is working with Eversource to get a crosstown trail in the works under the powerlines. Eversource has done a lot of work already with the gravel and planks placed under the lines. SWWWW still has a lot of work to do and the first phase is by Clark and Pleasant Valley Road.

June 5th, 2016 is CT Trail Day and this year they will be at Rye Street Park promoting the grand opening of the Mt Bike Trial.

April 17th was group cleaned Chapel Road for Adopt-A-Road clean-up day.

The town is finalizing a Complete Streets Policy which will be presented to the Town Council for their approval.

The big announcement is the Rob O'Connor is moving to Wethersfield this summer. He has done a lot of good work for SWWWW and PARC and he will be missed by both groups.

SW Food Alliance: There has been some concern about purchasing Development Rights for Farm land in town. One is that the Farmland west of Main Street that is now being farmed is in a flood plain and has no value for development. Two; development rights does not preserve farming on that piece of land.

Meeting adjourned 9:35 pm

Next Meeting: 7:30pm June 8th, 2016

Respectfully Submitted

George S. Caye