

Park and Recreation Commission
Minutes of the Meeting
June 8th, 2016

Meeting called to order: 7:47 pm.

Commissioners in Attendance: George Caye, Mike Kelly, Rob O'Connor, Al Larson, Dan Van Horn, Katie Graham

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

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

Public Input: Bob Dickenson from SWWWW is trying to get the town to put up sharrows on certain roads used by bike groups in town. He would like PARC support. It was suggested to present identified streets to the SWPD for the chief to ok and then come back to this group for PARC to approve.

Report of Council Liaison: One of the Town Council Public Hearing sessions on June 6th had to do with the constructing of a noise barrier on the west side of the SWHS Stadium. After much discussion it was decided that PARC as a group would have no comment, but if we wanted to express our opinions as individuals that would be fine.

OSTF: None

Report of the B of E Liaison: None

Report of Parks and Rec. Director: Keri Apt has taken over Ryan's position as Asst. Director, and Patrick Telman has left so they are now looking to fill two positions.

VMP: Design Professionals are working on the engineering and site plan for the new Rotary Pavilion.

LL Complex: Pepin Field will be redone and closed for the fall baseball season.

Comm. Center: New phone system to be installed this year. Dan Van Horn asked that the town look into installing security cameras around the center due to the recent vandalism of the Rotary Bathrooms.

Nevers Park: Parks & Rec. has incorporated a \$25,000 line item in the 2016-2017 operating budget to refurbish My Friends Place for next year's 10th Anniversary. Dan asked that Austin Gore, who did Eagle Scout project on the adjacent Jacob's View be recognized at the Parks & Rec. Dept. annual award ceremony, and potentially with a proclamation by Council. Matt Riley will look into this.

Veteran's Memorial Wall: Ray wanted to recognize John Caldwell and his crew for the great work they did in getting the wall ready for the Memorial Day Ceremony. Thanks to John and his crew for finishing the project on time.

Funding for repurposing Wapping School into a COMMUNITY CENTER made the Capitol Projects List. The New Rotary Pavilion DID NOT make the list but is in the works for still being built. Craig asked if the town has plans for the old Orchard Hill School and does the Town Council understand that the Parks & Rec. Dept. moving to the Wapping School does not

give the town a true RECREATION CENTER, since there will be no pool, full gym facility, weight/workout room or really any other recreation space other than classrooms, a small gym and an old cafeteria. This was discussed and Ray hopes that the TC understands what the school has to offer. A July guided tour of the building by the Council is in the works. Right now there is no plan for the old OH School due to ADA issues with the building.

PARC BUDGET: Remaining funds were taken away for balancing the town budget which left us with a zero balance. Since Rob had made a motion to use some of that money for an intern for the summer to work on our new Master Plan, he amended his motion to “use up to \$4000 of the 2016/17 PARC Budget to fund an intern to work on preparing the PARC New Master Plan. The Motion was seconded, voted on and passed unanimously. This was Rob’s old motion: “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: The town is finalizing a Complete Streets Policy which will be presented to the Town Council for their approval. This should be at their June 20th meeting

CT Trails Day was cancelled due to weather.

Rob O’Connor has officially resigned from PARC and SWWWW. He has moved to Wethersfield. Thanks Rob for all the great work and time you put in for both groups.

Farmers Market is set to open on June 18th in front of the Community Center.

Meeting adjourned 9:50 pm

Next Meeting: 7:30pm July 13th, 2016

Respectfully Submitted

George S. Caye

