

SHERMAN PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 14, 2011

Present:

Fran Frattini – Chairman
John Wrenn – Director
Stan Greenbaum
William Butts
Andy Fox
Karen Kellet – Secretary (7:57pm)

Absent:

Kris Fazzino

Guest:

Seven people present in the audience

Call to Order:

Chairman Frattini opened the June 14, 2011 Park and Recreation Regular Meeting at 7:43pm.

Minutes:

Chairman Frattini asked for a motion to approve the Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of May 10, 2011 as written. The motion was moved by Stan Greenbaum, seconded by Andy Fox and carried unanimously.

Guests:

A group of four girl scouts from Troop 40117 came before the Commission to request permission to use Volunteer Park on October 1, 2011, rain date October 2, 2011. The scouts of this troop are working toward receiving their Silver Award. Their goal is to hold an animal awareness day in which money can be raised to aid in purchasing supplies.

Andy Fox made a motion to accept Troop 40117 request for the use of Volunteer Park on October 1, 2011 (rain date October 2, 2011) to hold an Animal Awareness Program. The motion was seconded by Bill Butts and carried unanimously.

Pam Briggs handed in an application requesting the use of the Pavilion for a wedding ceremony. The event will be held on October 15, 2011 from about 3:00pm – 4:30pm. About 150 people will be attending. The Commission had concerns about parking and Ms. Briggs informed them that most of the attendees will be shuttled by bus from their hotels.

Stan Greenbaum made a motion to accept Ms. Briggs' application to rent the Pavilion on October 15, 2011 between 3:00pm – 4:30pm for a wedding ceremony in which about 150 people will be present. The motion was seconded by Andy Fox and carried unanimously.

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Minutes are not considered official until they have been approved by the Park and Recreation Commission at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Karen Kellett arrived at 7:57pm.

Tom Fitzpatrick handed in an application requesting the use of the Pavilion for the Sherman Soccer Trophy Day. The event will be held on June 18, 2011 from 9am – 12pm. Approximately 80 people will be attending.

Andy Fox made a motion to accept Mr. Fitzpatrick's application to rent the Pavilion on June 18, 2011 from 9am – 12pm for the Sherman Soccer Trophy Day waiving the rental fee. A security deposit must still be provided. The motion was seconded by Karen Kellett and carried unanimously

Brian Redmond, a member of a banjo band, was present in the audience and informed the Commission that he and his band would like to perform at the Gazebo during the summer. He will contact Director Wrenn to set a date.

Director Wrenn introduced Michelle Close. She will be the new Junior Camp Director. Ms. Close shared with the Commission the plans and activities the Junior Camp will be involved with this summer.

Old Business/Correspondence:

Chairman Frattini discussed an e-mail from Commission member Kris Fazzino. Mr. Fazzino inquired about spraying for ticks on the sports fields preventing an increase in tick population. Director Wrenn informed the Commission that public fields cannot be sprayed. Mr. Fox suggested that the grass should be mowed around the entire field and to consult Public Works to do a better job. Mr. Fitzpatrick shared that children like to play on the hillside of Volunteer Park and that he has trimmed the vines and tall grass himself.

The Commission discussed correspondence regarding the condition of the tennis courts since it has been replaced. Mr. Fox stated that he has tried to contact the company on numerous occasions and left voice messages for three different people and has not received a response. Mr. Fox informed the Commission that the tennis courts have significant dead spots because it was not installed properly. He suggests getting feedback from people who have used the courts before the replacement and who use them now.

Chairman Frattini received an e-mail from Selectman O'Connor asking for a quote for repairing the tennis courts. Selectman O'Connor may apply for a STEAP Grant that could aid in fixing the tennis courts.

Chairman Frattini spoke about the property offered to the town by a private owner. She asked Selectman O'Connor if accepted would the property be the responsibility of the Park and Recreation. Selectman O'Connor said it would not. Chairman Frattini described the house as having many rooms that could be used as offices. The person donating the property would like to see the Boy Scouts use part of it. Chairman Frattini had suggested that the Lake Authority could possibly move their office there and Mr. Butts would like to inquire about whether the Veteran's

Association could use an office. There will be a vote on accepting the donation of the property at the next Town Meeting on June 16th at 7pm.

Andy Fox left at 8:33pm.

Chairman Frattini stated that on Memorial Day she noticed three more windows were broken at the Beach Office. She reported the vandalism to the State Trooper had asked the Resident Trooper if the beach area could be patrolled more often now that it is summer.

Chairman Frattini reported that Dan Fox removed windows from a job he is doing and believes these windows could possibly be used in the Beach Office. Mr. Butts suggested that Plexiglas be placed over outside of the windows after they are replaced to prevent further vandalism.

Chairman Frattini informed the Commission that there is a new sign at the Town Park instructing people on how to properly clean their boats to prevent the transfer of zebra mussels.

As agreed at the May meeting, Chairman Frattini advised Selectman O'Connor that Park and Recreation would like to replace 6 docks the first year at a cost of \$27,000 and replace 5 docks a year for the following three years at a cost of \$23,000 each year. Making this a four year project. Andy Fox will be the contact person for this project.

Scott Berlinger was in the audience to give the Commission an overview of the details regarding the Triathlon. The date has been changed to July 23, 2011 and September 24, 2011. Mr. Berlinger has completed most of the forms that need to be handed in to Parks and Recreation. He spoke about liability insurance, course maps and discussed ideas on how to bring in different athletic youth programs into Sherman.

Chairman Frattini asked for a motion to approve the use of the Town Park for the Viper Racing Production and Sherman Park and Recreation Triathlon on July 23, 2011 and September 24, 2011. The motion was made by Bill Butts, seconded by Stan Greenbaum and carried unanimously.

New Business:

Mr. Butts mentioned a safety issue regarding the swimming docks at the Town Beach. He said the bolts holding the chains to the docks are too long and need to be trimmed down. The present length of the bolts could cause someone to cut themselves.

Chairman Frattini informed the Commission that she had received reports that the condition of the bathrooms at the Pavilion was very poor. They were very dirty and the toilets were clogged. She feels that once a maintenance person has been hired this issue will be resolved.

Director Wrenn and Stan Greenbaum interviewed two individuals for the Park and Recreation Facilities Maintenance position. Mr. Greenbaum shared the daily checklist of what needs to be completed in each area regarding this position. The Park and Recreation Commission recommend hiring Thomas O'Rourke for this position.

Chairman Frattini received an e-mail from Selectman's Office regarding camp scholarships. It was mentioned that 20 children would be eligible based on federal poverty level to receive a scholarship. Mr. Greenbaum suggested that families that wish to receive scholarships fill out standard forms similar to the forms filled out for lunch programs with schools. Based on the information provided it would be decided on who would receive scholarships.

Director Wrenn received correspondence from Selectman O'Connor regarding summer positions. She stated that there are guidelines to follow when advertising for summer positions and her office has not received any advertisements. Mr. Greenbaum suggested that every position be posted every year the same way. He volunteered to write advertisements for each position to be used as a standard. Director Wrenn that the summer positions were in the Park and Rec. Notes that appear in the Sherman Sentinel and the Citizen News.

Selectman O'Connor also informed Director Wrenn that all money collected from Summer Programs must be brought to Town Hall right away. Director Wrenn advised that after a discussion with the Town Treasurer the money would be brought there weekly.

Director Wrenn mentioned that private property owners in Benchmark contacted him informing him that the boat in slot D-10 is too big and may damage their boat in their private slot located next to D-10. He is attempting to resolve this issue.

Director's Report:

Director Wrenn discussed S.P.A.R.K. delinquent accounts and will contact individuals to inform them they need to pay before the month is over.

Director Wrenn stated that a New Fairfield baseball team came to Sherman to play a "real" game on a Sherman field. Director Wrenn informed the coaches that they cannot play without permission and that if they do play they have to provide proof of insurance. Another group on another day also held practice on a Sherman field. Insurance is needed for their liability and they need to ask permission before using. It was noted that although these teams were from New Fairfield they do have Sherman members.

Sign up for all summer programs have started.

An application for the use of the Pavilion was reviewed by the Commission. The eighth grade would like to have a last day of school party on June 24, 2011 from 12:30pm to 3:00.

Another application for the use of the Pavilion was reviewed by the Commission. The Sherman Merchants and Traders would like to use the Pavilion for their summer party on June 26, 2011 from 1:00pm to 6:00pm.

Bill Butts made a motion to approve the application of the Sherman eighth grade for the use of the Pavilion on June 24, 2011 from 12:30 to 3:00 to have a last day of school party and to approve the application of the Sherman Merchants and Traders for the use of the Pavilion on

June 26, 2011 from 1:00 to 6:00 for their summer party. The motion was seconded by Stan Greenbaum and carried unanimously.

Adjournment:

Stan Greenbaum moved to adjourn the June 14, 2011 Regular Park and Recreation Commission meeting at 10:28pm. The motion was seconded by Bill Butts and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Kellett
Park and Recreation Secretary

Lynn Silk
Recording Secretary