

**Wallingford Parks & Recreation Department
Parks & Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes October 12, 2011**

Recreation Commission Members Present:

Dave Gelo, Mike Savenelli, Roz Gallagher, Phylis Murray

Recreation Department Staff Present:

John Gawlak CPRP Director Parks & Recreation,

Recording Secretary:

Joanne Vass

Opening Remarks:

Dave Gelo called the meeting to order @ 8:04 AM.

Minutes:

Roz Gallagher made a motion to defer acceptance of the previous meeting's minutes until next month. It was seconded by Mike Savenelli.

Old Business:

Bench Dedication for Linda Mercuri: Will be held on Monday, October 24 in exit 3. Michelle will handle refreshments. Bench will be installed the following week.

Policy Review of Permit System: Brief discussion ensued.

Recreation Commission Foundation: John, Mike, and Roz conference called Ray Favreau of South Windsor Parks & Recreation for start-up ideas. South Windsor did respond to our inquiry, but we concluded that their town is not comparable to our structure. After a brief discussion, it was decided that:

A purpose or goal is needed to get traction on project.

It could be a vehicle for estate planning to be dedicated to town improvements.

Suggested an "annual mailing" to residents.

New group to head project (separate board).

Keep passive, but identify needs.

Inventory of needs necessary.

Harrison Sign: On hold. Facilities Co-ordinator is on vacation this week. Dave will get ideas for design from sign company for WWI Vets Park now known as Harrison Park.

New Business:

1. Port-o-let issues: A lengthy discussion ensued regarding extra cleaning, vandalism, responsibility of extra cleaning costs, etc.
2. New Commission Member: John forwarded a letter to Mayor Dickinson from resident, Jason Michael. The Mayor intends to make an appointment with Jason to discuss position. John will follow up on status.

Director's Notes:

Celebrate Wallingford: Event was very beneficial for the Department. 300 Bags with information inside were given out. Also given out were old left over program T-shirts, promotional flyers, apples, and trail maps. Frisbee Golf was promoted. The Department also donated 1 concert, face painting and Curious Creatures for the event.

Preventative Health Block Grant Update From the Health Department: The grant was used for \$3,000 worth of equipment and enrollment fees for the first 33 in Speed School this Fall. The remainder of the grant will be used to fund a Spring Family Walk, which will be free to participants.

Tyler Mill Open Space: Stewards policing the area have recently done a large clean-up. Misuse and damage primarily done by ATVs and other various motor vehicles to the area was discussed at length. Stewards document incidents and take photos. Information is forwarded to Community Police Division. A few arrests have been made and fines given out.

West Side Field: A meeting will be held today with various departments and Jr. Football Board regarding issues and needed field improvements. It has been deemed in the worst condition in 6 years. Options:

1. Close and reseed
2. Re-sod

Discussion of funds, in-house help (DPW), etc.

Sign Replacement: signs need to be put back up at Carini and Coyle Fields (same as Bertini Sign), as they are dedicated fields.

Football Concessions: John recently spoke to Supt. regarding issues surrounding concession stand problems at Sheehan High School.. Topic was briefly discussed. Meetings will be scheduled soon.

Fall Enrollment: Good registration numbers. Gannon and Weber numbers down- slow in coming in. Gannon has new director, Howard Greenberg.

Hunting Permits: Now given out at Willy B's instead of Mike's Barber Shop.

Next Meeting:

The next Recreation Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday November 9, 2011 @ 8:00AM at the Recreation Dept. Dave asked everyone to submit topics for the next meeting's agenda. He will E-mail all commissioners as a reminder for topics before the next meeting.

Adjournment:

Dave Gelo made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Savenelli seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15am.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Vass, recording secretary