Sherman Park and Recreation Commission
Minutes of Special Meeting
June 18, 2018

Present:
Fran Frattini-Chairman
Karen Kellett
John Wrenn-Director
T.J. Fazzone
Denise DePalma
Stan Greenbaum
Kris Fazzone

Absent:
William Butts

Guests:
James Day, David Day, Frannie O'Rourke, Roberta Douglas

Call to order:
Chairman Fran Frattini called the June 18, 2018 Special Meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 7:20pm.

Minutes from May 14, 2018 Regular Meeting:
A motion to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2018 Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting was made by Stan Greenbaum, seconded by Karen Kellett and voted with all in favor.

Public Comment:
James Day presented a preliminary Eagle Scout project proposal to build a bocce court at Veterans Field by the tennis courts. There was a discussion that included the bocce court's orientation to tennis courts, options for materials, how the court would be built and what the border might look like. Zoning approvals were discussed as well as the fact that the location is below the 440 and First Light would need to be contacted for approval. The Park and Recreation Department is responsible for obtaining any permits needed. It was suggested that either bocce balls be available at the court or at the Park and Recreation office. Maintenance of the court was discussed. The Commission was very much in favor of James Day's proposal.
Correspondence:
Denise DePalma reported that she had received requests from residents for a dog park. She also received requests for a bathroom and a well or some source of running water at the Community Gardens. There was a discussion, including several options for possible water sources. These included a shallow well with hand pump, a water tank placed at the gardens, and water delivery from a truck.

Pavilion and Facilities Use:
There was a request for use of the Pavilion on August 18, from 10am – 8pm by the Sherman Volunteer Fire Department for a Family Clam/Pizza Bake.

A motion to approve the application for use of the pavilion by the Sherman Volunteer Fire Department on August 18 from 10 – 8:00 and to waive the fee was made by T.J. Fazzone. The motion was seconded by Denise DePalma. Vote was all in favor with Kris Fazzone abstaining.

Maintenance and Repair:
1. The bathroom facility at Veterans Field was discussed. It was functioning by the Memorial Day festivities. Some areas still need to be addressed. The quality of the materials used was questioned. The bathrooms are closed at 6:00pm for the time being but will be open later once the timed locks are installed; they are on order.
2. There appear to be no visible bumps anywhere on the tennis courts. The courts need some cleaning and regular maintenance but especially now since an unknown white substance has been splattered over about a 20 foot area of the courts.
3. The grill by the pavilion is still not secured in place as required by Fire Marshall. John Wrenn had requested several times that this be done; he will look into it again.
4. The staining of the pavilion was discussed. Frannie O'Rourke will be doing the work. The discussion including researching the original product used on the pavilion and trying to use it or a similar product this time. Mr. O'Rourke described the process he would use to pressure wash the building with medium to low pressure and proceed to stain the entire facility inside and out, including the bathrooms. Timing for the project was discussed. A Monday through Friday period after Labor Day seemed to be the most reasonable. Summer pavilion use is under way and there are still weekend pavilion rentals well into the fall months. Repair needed to locks on bathrooms as well as an outdoor spigot were discussed.
5. It was noted that the bench at the Town Park playground needs to be scraped and stained. There is a possibility that it can be done along with the ongoing painting of the swim floats.

Facilities Report:
1. New floating section of boat docks can't be installed until the level of the lake is lower.
2. There was a discussion about a boat slip renter whose slip was damaged during the recent storm. He was offered a different slip to use until repairs are complete but puts his boat in other slips rented by other residents. Options for dealing with this situation were explored. Mr. Wrenn will talk with him again.
3. The tennis courts were discussed, as well as new boat docks and one damaged finger that needs repair.
4. New buoys are on order. The process of installing buoys and swim docks was discussed.
5. Overall, the Town Park, all fields and Volunteer Park were deemed to be in good shape. However, there was a report of a lot of dog excrement on Colonial Field even though clean-up bags are readily available from the dispensers that Park and Recreation installed long ago.
6. T.J. Fazzone noted his appreciation to the town crew for adjusting the mowing schedule for Colonial Field to Friday. Mr. Fazzone reported that the fields looked great this past weekend.
Old Business/New Business:

There was no Old Business.

New Business; Kris Fazzone reported that the Fire Department had an AED with permanent wall mount to offer to Park and Recreation for year-round use. Mr. Fazzone suggested the Scout House as a location for the device. There was a discussion. The Fire Department will maintain the devise.

A motion to approve the offer of an AED from the Sherman Fire Department was made by Stan Greenbaum and seconded by Denise DePalma. Vote was all in favor.

Director’s Report:

1. ASP was discussed. There have been an average of 4.68 children per day and the program should end the year with a small positive balance in the account. Work is being done to get at least 5 commitments for next year needed to run the program.

2. Guest Roberta Douglas spoke on behalf of the ASP program. Her grandchildren attend the program and she felt it was an excellent program with a wonderful staff. Mrs. Douglas stated how valuable a program like ASP is to the community. Fran Frattini reviewed the history of ASP's predecessor, the SPARK program. Mrs. Frattini noted that if ASP runs next year then the Commission will continue its practice of reviewing the program in December to determine the feasibility of continuing ASP for the second half of the year. Mrs. Douglas offered to make a donation to keep the program running. She was thanked for her offer and advised that she may be contacted if her help is needed.

3. ASP personnel was discussed, including efforts that have been made to boost enrollment. There were mixed opinions about this. Offering movie days for 2018-19 was discussed, as well as developing an anonymous parent satisfaction survey. Mr. Wrenn and Denise DePalma will work together to develop a survey that should go out this week.

4. Mr. Wrenn distributed that checking account report. The balance as of June 18, 2018 was $2,188.41.

5. Stan Greenbaum described a new program generated by Consumer Reports that he will be running. The program is “The Sustainable Diet” and deals with planning a diet that is both healthy and affordable for the consumer while at the same time sustainable for the planet. The workshop will be held Saturday, June 23 at the Sherman School’s multipurpose room from 9:30am to 11:00am. Mr. Greenbaum has been in the consumer Reports Leadership circle for years and was approached by that organization to run this workshop.

Denise DePalma made a motion to approve Stan Greenbaum's proposal for a Sustainable Diet Workshop on June 23 at the Sherman School. The motion was seconded by Karen Kellett and voted with all in favor.

6. Concerts so far are as follows:
   - Dave Wonsey & Friends Jazz Band, July 1 from 4:00 – 7:00
   - Blue Yodels, July 8 from 4:30 – 7:30
   - Commission on Aging's Senior Concert, August 19 at 4:00
   - After Hours Band at a time TBD???

Additional concerts were also discussed.

7. There was a discussion about the fact that 2018 is the 90th anniversary of the formation of Lake Candlewood. Each Park and Recreation Department around the lake may be invited to be part of festivities. The Candlewood Lake Authority is researching a plan for a band on a boat to visit each Town's park and play music from the 9 decades for an hour at each beach. Other options for celebrations were discussed.
8. Water at the Community Gardens was discussed again. Kris Fazzone noted that if there was a water tank on site that the Fire department could fill it. Fencing around such a tank was discussed. Denise DePalma had gotten a quote of $1,000-$3,000 for a shallow well with a hand pump. This may be put in next year's budget.

9. The possibility of another composting toilet facility at Colonial Park was discussed.

10. Stan Greenbaum volunteered to do research related to shallow wells versus tank for water at Community gardens.

11. Tilling of the Community Gardens was discussed. It was noted that the tilling should have been pulling material in the opposite direction that it was done.

12. Parking at Colonial Field for soccer was discussed.

13. Denise DePalma requested that a picnic table be installed at the Community Gardens.

14. Camp sign-ups are doing satisfactorily so far: 25 in Senior Camp; 10 in Junior Camp; 6 for Paddle Boarding; 12 in Swim Lessons.

15. There is no waterfront supervisor hired yet and no swim lesson teachers. 7 lifeguards have been hired with a total of 11-12 needed.

Kris Fazzone made a motion to adjourn the June 18, 2018 Park and Recreation Special meeting. The motion was seconded by T.J. Fazzone and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Kellett
Park and Recreation Secretary

Mary Jo Dix
Recording Secretary

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission is July 9, 2018

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