Sherman Park and Recreation Commission
Minutes of Regular Meeting
June 17, 2019

Present:
Fran Frattini-Chairman
Stan Greenbaum
Karen Kellett
John Wrenn-Director
Denise DePalma

Absent:
T.J. Fazzone
Kris Fazzzone
Rachel Booth

Guests: There were no guests.

Call to order:
Chairman Fran Frattini called the June 17, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 7:48pm.

Pavilion and Facilities Applications:
Fran Frattini and John Wrenn had approved the Sherman Boy Scout Troop to camp out at the Town Park for June 7-8. The Troop had previously gotten approval for parking in the Town Park lot for a planned June 7-8 campout on Green Island. There was a problem with the required motorboat that is needed to camp on Green Island. There was a discussion.

Denise DePalma made a motion to approve after the fact the Boy Scouts’ campout at the Town Park on June 7-8. Karen Kellett seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes from May 13, 2019 Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Meeting:
A motion to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2019 Sherman Park and Recreation Commission Meeting was made by Denise DePalma, seconded by Karen Kellett and voted with all in favor. Minutes accepted as written.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.
Correspondence:
1. Denise DePalma reported:
   a. Community Gardeners are very grateful for the water tank at the gardens. They are requesting the installation of a bench or picnic table at the gardens also. There was a discussion and it was decided that a portable bench from the soccer field could be moved to a shady area at the gardens and then back to the soccer field at the end of the season.

   b. Residents that were at Veterans Field had reported concern and confusion about the flags that the Town Crew had stuck in the piles of dog excrement on the field. The flags were in place so that the mowers could avoid the piles. There was a discussion, including: fines that could be imposed by the Dog Warden on dog owners who do not clean up after their dogs, extra signage on the field and the likelihood of dogs being prohibited from Park and Recreation fields altogether.

   c. There is more interest in exploring the creation of a dog park in town. There was a discussion, including but not limited to location, size, cost and possible sources of financing. Mrs. Frattini formed a Dog Park Exploratory Sub Committee and Denise DePalma volunteered to head the Exploratory Dog Park Committee. It was noted that a number of volunteers would be needed to serve on the committee and anyone interested should call John Wrenn at Park and Recreation and leave name and phone number.

   Karen Kellett made a motion to approve the formation of an Exploratory Dog Park Sub-Committee. Stan Greenbaum seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

   d. The need for pre- and post-season bathroom facilities at Veterans, the Town Park and Colonial were discussed, in particular during the off-season. There was a discussion, including options for expanded porta pot rental, actual dates of operation of existing permanent bathroom facilities, budgetary concerns and maintenance/cleaning issues. Mr. Wrenn will look into the possibility of renting a porta pot for a few months at the Town Park after the pavilion bathrooms are closed for the 2019 season.

   e. Kevin McAvoy was grateful for the installation of the rowboat rack at the Town Park and advised that it looked very good.

   f. There was a boat slip that contained both a boat and a jet ski. Mr. Wrenn will tell the renters of the slip to remove the Jet Ski.

Maintenance and Repair:
   a. There was vandalism at the Town Park bathroom that had been cleaned up. Mr. Wrenn is looking in to why the bathroom was left open. The possibility of
electronic surveillance was discussed, as well as the schedule for maintenance of
bathroom facilities and communication issues with Public Works Department.

   b. Mr. Wrenn noted that First Selectman Lowe had advised him that there had
been an offer of the donation of one or two benches for inside of the tennis courts.
There was a discussion, including the history of the existing benches outside the courts,
permission given from First Light for benches at Veterans Field and the liability and
safety issues related to benches installed inside the courts.

Facility Report:
   All facility updates were covered in other sections of these minutes: boat docks,
tennis courts, Town Park and other Park and Recreation areas.

Old Business/New Business:
   1. Town Park is now officially open for the season. One dock ladder is installed
and the other will be installed soon.

   2. The vandalism to the lawn at Volunteer Park is not so much repaired as it is
nicely grown over.

   3. The location of the corn hole games at the Town Park was examined and
determined to be appropriate. Its location leaves a good-sized area for Senior Camp to
play baseball. It will require some weed whacking around the games. Maintenance of
corn hole games as a Boy Scout service project was discussed.

   4. The Summer Brochure is now on the Town’s FaceBook page as well as
having been distributed around town and through the school.

   5. It was noted that the Park and Recreation Commission information on the
Town website needs updating.

Director's Report:
   1. The Dave Wonzey Jazz group was recently scheduled for Sunday, July 28
from 4:00 – 7:00 at the Pavilion at the Town Park. Already listed in the summer
brochure are the Blue Yodels on Sunday, July 7 and After Hours band on Saturday,
July 27, both at the Pavilion from 4:00 – 7:00.

   2. The checking account report was shared with the Commission.

   3. ASP continued through the end of the school year. A final report should be
ready for the July meeting. There will need to be a search for a new Director for the
coming school year. Methods of advertising were discussed.
4. Summer program sign ups so far are as follows: Senior Camp – 40; Junior Camp 20; swim lessons noticeably lower than usual; new sports programs have very few enrollees; Paddle boarding 1.

5. There have been no applicants for the summer maintenance position.

6. There was a discussion about the possibility of offering the rental of paddleboats at the Town Park.

7. Summer supervisors are Samantha Moravsky – Waterfront; Samantha Celio – Senior Camp; Ali Moravsky - Junior Camp.

Denise DePalma made a motion to adjourn the June 17, 2019 Sherman Park and Recreation Regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Stan Greenbaum and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Kellett
Park and Recreation Secretary

Mary Jo Dix
Recording Secretary

The next Park and Recreation Commission meeting will be July 8, 2019.